CHORUS

The International Crosby Circle

presents

BING

ONE, TWO, BUTTON Put on your coat and hat;

IF I HAD MY WAY

play a game like wait-ing for you.

THE COUNTRY GIRL

BELLS OF ST. MARY'S

ROAD TO MOROCCO

HERE IS MY HEART

ARTHUR'S COURT

PENNIES FROM HEAVEN

WAIKIKI WEDDING

BLUE SKIES

ROAD TO UTOPIA

I count each step you take While I'm wait-ing for you.

ONLY FOREVER

GOING MY WAY

Edited by

FRANK MURPHY

Hon President: BING CROSBY

THE INTERNATIONAL CROSBY CIRCLE
incorporating
THE BRITISH CROSBY SOCIETY
founded 1950

Hon Vice-President: LARRY CROSBY

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Renewals - When your renewal is due, a special renewal notice will be included with your magazine - To ensure continuance of your membership please note your renewal must be received within one month of your receipt of same.

When writing to the clubs officers, please always extend the courtesy of a stamped self addressed envelope.

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Honorary Members include;-
Dorothy Hardiman-former Pres - Mick Drury-Tape Crosby
Stan White-former Publicity Officer

THE INTERNATIONAL CROSBY CIRCLE
presents
Issue No 7 "BING" July 1967

CROZ-TALK

Hello members,

First may I extend my sincere apologies to all Officers and Members of the ICC for the late issue of this edition of "BING" - It's not often that we have to make excuses and I hope you will forgive this late arrival - Some explanation is in order though and as many of you who have written or phoned me will have found out, one of the main reasons for my getting so far behind schedule was the eventful holiday in Ireland, but also as a number of personal friends in the club know, I changed my job in May and returned to my old love as a cinema manager and this too has added considerably to the confusion surrounding this issue - however, the holiday is over and the new job is shaping up great - the cinema is doing excellent business during the current school holiday period in which I scheduled daily matinees, and also in the evenings and a number of Bingo nights - I am also busy with a number of alterations which will shortly take place at the cinema and added to these are my personal arrangment to have all of the club admin transfered to the cinema where I can then make plans to attend to it during my normal working hours - after this issue reaches you I expect a further month of hectic re-arrang ingafter which I am confident we shall then revert to our previous normal and perhaps what is most important, business like approach to the clubs running - so as I said earlier, I hope all of the clubs officers and members will forgive this lapse and await the early arrival of our usual correspondence.

Before we press on to other matters I would mention that the new job is an ideal situation for plugging the maestro and Bingo members on the four sessions we have weekly are being well instructed in the gentle art of JOINING BING to SING ALONG, and under consideration at the moment is aspecial record request spot to precede the session, during which I hope to put the spotlight, not only on more Bing, but other favourites of mine such as THE INK SPOTS, AL JOLSON, THE MILLS BROTHERS, JIM REEVES and other greats - a few weeks ago we had a terrificpicture week with one of the current big westerns A FISTFUL OF DOLLARS and on the Wednesday night John came over to see the film - the circle was packed and just before the main film went on at 8.20pm I had the chief operator play Bing's THINE ALONE with only the footlights on the stage up - you could have heard a pin drop in the cinema and Bing came over beautifully on the cinema speakers - needless to say John was thrilled at this special treat - for which I might add, there was no extra charge - --- I would mention also that local members who may visit my cinema at any time can also have the special service free of charge (laugh) by ringing me at the EMPIRE CINEMA, JARROW the night before theyare coming, I will then arrange to have the Bing of their choice played during the interval. - The number is 897082.

The clubs official blazer and car badges are really swinging - the latter is really magnificient and I found mine too attractive to put on the car bumper and have put it in a prominent spot on the dashboard where it attracts a lot of attention and also can't get pinched)I hope(- the blazer badges will advertise the club quite a lot at least in the Norther East of England - there's John, Ken Robinson and myself for example, proudly displaying these on our weekly Sunday night out together, and these are really showoy - unfortunately it's now too late to order either of these items, but in a year or two we may re-introduce them if sufficient interest is shown.

There's a man living in Anerley who puts your editor to shame - one RALPH HARDING editor of THE CROSBY COLLECTOR (see page 29) - here am I making excuses for the late arrival of our quarterly magazine, on account of holidays and a change of jobs - Ralph holiday's with friends in Scotland, does a full time job and yet manages to produce without interuption, his monthly and eagerly looked forward too magazine

cont on page 4

continuing CROS-TALK

He deserves every praise and encouragement for his enterprise and I, personally recomend this great monthly Crosby publication, not only because of Ralph's obvious enthusiasm for a topic we all lap up with the greatest relish, but also for another very good reason -

When the old CROSBY POST dissapeared late in 1965 to be re-presented in Jan 1966, the apearence of the CROSBY COLLECTOR was thought by many to be a project destined to become a short lived rival to BING and vice-versa, there were many who thought that there just was'nt room for two magazines - I knew this was a lot of dd cod's wallup - and here, nearly two years later, both organisations are thriving hapilly side by side, both helping to promote the others memberships whilst at the same time remaining completely independant of each other - in other words, a happy and most beneficial position has been realised whereby no-one who retains the original grouses can be involved and everyone who subscribes to both BING and THE CROSBY COLLECTOR enjoys the best of both worlds - at 2/- per copy for an average of 30 pages plus some of the best cover photos of Bing ever to grace any Crosby magazine .....boy what more have I to say.....go get a copy;;;

Also missing from this issue is the ALAN LURIE - RON BOSLEY "MOVIE FILE - I had the copy in time, but along with the other photo stencils, the excellent one of THE BIRTH OF THE BLUES had to be shelved until next issue - so rather than print the copy only, I decided that both Alan and Ron would prefer to have the whole feature held over until October - so lads - we'll run it then and also the one you plan for October also - so lo k out for a double MOVIE FILE in October - Colin Pugh, who is saving the sheets of the Movie File suggests that members who want extra sheets should have them placed in the same envelope on mailing out time - I'd be happy to comply with such an arrangment - so any member wanting same please let me know.

Which brings me to postal costs - so many members still write with querys etc and don't put a stamped addressed envelope in with their letter - this would be very much appreciated-as our weekly mail is usually very heavy both me and the other club officers would appreciate your complying with this courteous request.

One of the features of this magazine to receive many mentions in your letters is penned by our Liverpool Crosbyite, Les Phythian - Les always produces very worthwhile articles and also prepares his own stencils for printing - always tied to a busy work schedule, it's especially appreciated Les, that you manage to come up so regularly with such interesting items as the TV writings and at the time of writing I would like also to extend my thanks to Les for sending me some beautiful souvenirs of the opening of the new Cathedral at Liverpool - Les went to a lot of trouble to ensure that postmarks etc were carefully placed on these mementoes which will always be treasured - I'm sure also Les that Bing will be similarly delighted with the ones yousent him and whilst on the subject of Bing and personal relationships it's perhaps an opportune time to print a letter recently received and which helps to bear out the strong bond of activity we have with Bing and the Crosby Office.

32 Mexborough Street
Leeds 7

I wrote to Mr Bing Crosby asking him if he could possibly get me a pen friend in Hollywood and he suggested I wrote to you because you could possibly help me. Well first of all let me tell you about myself. I am a fifteen year old coloured girl with long black hair, brown eyes and I am five feet five inches tall. I do not go to school anymore I go to work as a junior clerk. If you could possibly get me a pen friend I would like her to be at least fifteen to seventeen years old and if possible to have taken part in films, because I am very interested and hope to take up acting later on.

Yours sincerely (signed) Lornette Walters

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continuing "CROZ-TALK"

I'm sure Pat Sullivan in San Francisco or Dot Hardiman in Florida will be able to suggest a pen friend for Lornette, so this request is passed over to our colleaques on the spot there in the USA for their attention, please.

Publicity-wise your editor has had a very busy time of late and it was a real happy chore to be associated with a broadcast on the BBC programme TALKABOUT broadcast on the N.E.H.S. 9th July-67, I was given a full ten minute spot to talk at lenth on our favourite subject Bing Crosby - and reaction has been very rewarding - Fred Reynolds wrote topass on compliments which were very much appreciated and I have received letters from all over England and also from Eire - a most useful plug for the club as well as earning yours truly 5 guineas. Also had occasion to loan Tyne Tees Television Bing's recording of STRAIGHT DOWN THE MIDDLE - seems they needed this for a special request programme - and I was happy to oblige for anunexpected fee of 3 guineas - (Tyne Tees, I have a further 500 Bing 78's always on call at those terms - ha ha) - Also had a useful plug in the Evening Chronicle in which they published a letter I sent them suporting the plea of columnist DOUGLAS ENEFER for the release of more original Whiteman material, this also brought in a few letters, and also an interesting one from a columist of the Newcastle Journal, Mark Stephens, pp Peter Anthony, among other comments he wrote; "I thought that your remarks about the North East being a collectors paradise is particularly interesting, and I thought your group would make suitable subject for my column".....

Needless to say I am now engageg in a round of correspondence with this writer, the outcome of which can only benef it our club

With the holiday period now in full swing, it's been a real pleasure to welcome to our home personally for brief visits, Michael Crampton, Roy Chappell, and also George and Ronnie Smith who called in on a trip to the North East coast - it's always such a great pleasure to be able to say hello personally to fellow members of the club and both Alma and I thoroughly enjoy such personal visits.

cont over.

In a recent letter Bob Roberts mentioned that both he and Vera had been so very busy in the shop during the hot weather selling Ice Cream and Pop - tied up with my comments on page 3 about the cinema, I share your exhaustion - boy.

And that just about takes care of the main points for this time, so without going any further I'll switch over to

===== THE GROANER IN THE GROOVE =====

Two great Decca albums for review this time and first up is that great re-issue of the Beloved Hymns set;-

ACE OF HEARTS AH 145 BELOVED HYMNS

HE LEADETH ME..WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS..ROCK OF AGES..ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUE NAME..PEACE PRAYER OF ST FRANCIS.. .. .. HOLY HOLY HOLY..OH GOD OUR HELP IN AGES PAST..MOTHER DEAR OH PRAY FOR ME..OH LORD I AM NOT WORTHY..BLESSING OF ST FRANCIS.

No doubt about this one at all - a must for everyones collection - and you don't have to be religeous to appreciate the wonderful sincerity that Bing Crosby displays here - my favourites are WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS and OH LORD I AM NOT WORTHY but with Bing in such tremendous form, the supurb backing supplied by the KEN DARBY CHIOR, on these tracks which in my opinion rank among the very best that Bing ever recorded for Decca, it's not just a question of particular favourites - it's more a case of just which Hymns you like, for every one is sung and produced with top class ability and sincerity.

ACE OF HEARTS AH 139 BING SINGS FOR CHILDREN

WHISTLE A HAPPY TUNE..LITTLE SIR ECHO..TEDDY BEARS PICNIC..GUS EDWARDS MEDLEY.. SWINGING ON A STAR..SWEET POTATO PIPER.. .. .. SING A SONG OF SUNBEAMS..LITTLE LADY MAKE BELIEVE..START THE DAY RIGHT..GETTING NOWHERE..LULLABY..PENNIES FROM HEAVEN.

This kind of release ranks among my favourite albums, because, I don't know about you, but there's nothing I like better than a mixed session of 78's, and I much prefer this kind of session in preference to the usual album session where you usually have to listen to one kind or one period of Bing - AH 139 provides a nice mixed bag of Crosby of many different periods ranging from the 30's to the 50's great value and variety and I especially enjoyed the PENNIES FROM HEAVEN medley, featuring Bing along with LOUIS ARMSTRONG and FRANCES LANGFORD - surprised to find no mention of these great artists on the sleeve, nor of the prescence of CONNIE BOSWELL on START THE DAY RIGHT -we collectors know and recognise these tracks when they appear, but surely Decca could indicate, for the general buyers, the tracks where other great stars join Bing.

WHAT ABOUT THE FUTURE - with almost the whole Crosby record scene being dominated with re-issues, the picture is certainly gloomy - Bing shows neither the interest nor the inclination to record more these days, and thoughwe can hardly complain; we'd be lying if we did'nt admit our Crosby appitites are insatitable - we still, in spite of our huge collections get a great thrill from hearing somethingnew from the maestro - we can of course take heart from Les' news that Bing is to record more titles for LONGINES, but this does nothing for the general public - it looks like Bing is really hanging up his gloves - look at the picture scene, apart from his guest appearance in ROBIN AND THE SEVEN HOODS in 1964, it's now 7 years since he made a movie - that's if you count the forgetable (musicwise) ROAD TO HONG KONG - A LITTLE BIT OF IRISH showded that today Bing Crosby is still a force to be reckoned with and I reckon we'll just have to keep our fingers crossed and hope that someone willinterest Bing in something or other either record or filmwise- Meanwhile, back to our records and historical gems of the past.

Best regards, Frank

SHEET MUSIC BY THE SCORE

It's a rare event when a request for material etc meets with a unaminous responce, so it is with particular pleasure that we can record such a responce in reply to our request for the loan of sheet music for use as photo pages in our Crosby magazine

At the time of preparing this stencil the final choice has'nt been made for this issue but we now have on file a beauty of MAN ON FIRE from BRIAN PATTINSON of Dunstan, England - A rare shot of EMPTY SADDLES from JOHNNY JONES of Ballyhalbert, N Ireland - a magnificient selection of over 50 different items sent over at great expence by JEAN PAUL FREREAULT of P.Q. Canada - PLUS a further much appreciated offer of a similar loan from EDDIE RICE of California, USA, which has now been filed for future use thus ensuring a readily available supply of photo material for many years to come.

Checking through the Jean Paul collection it soon became apparent that there were many gems here, many of them that would lend themselves to excellent electronic stencil reproduction - in fact 33 items have been reserved for re-production and at a rough estimation if we work on a basis of using 4 per issue it will take us two years to cover these - to give you some idea of what treasures you can expect here are just a few you can look out for -

RHYTHM ON THE RIVER..MOONBURN..IF I HAD MY WAY..SWINGING ON A STAR.. HERE LIES LOVE..JUST FOR YOU..THE MOON GOT IN MY EYES..I HAVE EYES.. MY HEART IS TAKING LESSONS..A MAN AND HIS DREAM..TOO ROMANTIC..LOVE IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER,.BLACK MOONLIGHT..WITHOUT A WORD OF WARNING.. LET'S CALL A HEART A HEART..I PROMISE YOU..I'D RATHER BE ME..THE MAGIC WINDOW..MAY I.. -

Because they are in heavy colour two magnificient covers - LOVE IN BLOOM and SWANEE RIVER will not be suitable for reproduction though we do plan to use the back cover of the latter which depicts some excellent scenes from MISSISSIPPI.
The cover of HERE LIES LOVE from THE BIG BROADCAST OF 1932 also depicts KATE SMITH, THE BOSWELL SISTERS, THE MILLS BROTHERS, ARTHUR TRACY, BURNS AND ALLEN among others and for this reason this will also be used for our other promotion, THE GOLDEN YEARS magazine.

We record our appreciation to Brian, Johnny and Jean Paul, and also to Eddie to whom we shall look for selections for late 1969 onwards.

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SCRAPBOOK CORNER from the JACK SHAW files

Exclusive to ABC Film Review - R. Quilter Vincent spends a "SUNDAY WITH THE STARS"

Bing Crosby and Bob Hope will not easily forget Sunday 21 September 1952, I feel sure. In the afternoon of that day they struggled valiantly with 10,000 excited film fans for over three hours, in order to play a game of golf with Donald Peers and Ted Ray. In the evening between them they entertained a huge audience at London's Stoll Theatre for roughly an hour and a half. It must have been one of the most tiring days of even their eventful lives; indeed, just to accompany them as an observer, as I did, was exhausting.

Of course, they battled in a worthy cause; both golf match and stage show were sponsored by the Variety Club of Great Britain in aid of child welfare organisations.

When I arrived at Maidenhead's Temple Golf Club, where the match was to be held one of the first persons I met was ABC's own publicity manager, Andy Neatrour. As Variety Club host and Press representative Andy, let me say, did much tomake the day a success - He told me he had just left Ted Ray on the first tee, and I headed there at once -

Cont/

.....I wanted a word with Ted before the inevitable stampede began.....

Suddenly a girl who had been staring out of the window sqealed excitedly, "They're here!" All eyes turned to watch a sleek black limousine pulling into the gravel driveway. It contained Bing Crosby and Bob Hope.

When the famous visitors alighted they strutted about pulling faces at Press cameras whilst the hundreds of onlookers shouted approval. Above the laughter I heard Bob introduce Bing with "Meet my dad" - The crowd grew rapidly and pressed close. Quickly the two stars were ushered into the clubhouse for lunch.

Too much has been written about the golf match for me to deal with it at this late date. I report simply that at 3 O' clock in the afternoon Crosby, Hope, Peers and Ray dissapeared beneath a struggling, clawing mass of excited film fans; Whilst I dissapeared into the clubhouse for a chate with delightful Betsy Duncan.

At 5.45 pm the golfers, looking very much the worse for wear, staggered back to the clubhouse, a sanctuary indeed. The match had been terminated on the IOth green, with Peers and Ray declared the winning team. When Bing and Bob had taken a drink (ginger beer) they pushed their way to a car drawn up at the clubhouse door. Both men signed autographs as they went, and the indefatigable Hope continued to make wise-cracks. As soon as they were aboard, the car edged it's way to the road and quickly got away.

About two hours later I arrived backstage at the Stoll Theatre for the Variety Club Charity Concert, organised by Bob Hope with the assistance of Val Parnell and Charles Henry. Whilst I was chatting to author Ian Bevan the door in the corridor outside banged open and in walked Bing Crosby and Bob Hope, both talking nineteen to the dozen. A wash and a brush up at their hotel had given the pair new energy. They were ready for work again.

This was the first chance I'd had to take a close look at them. About Bing two things struck me forcibly, the bright blue of his eyes - his face once rounded, is now quite lean, his complection sun tanned. Bing is of medium hight and build. He is a most likeable person, affable to a degree

"Hello" Bob greeted me as he entered the dressing room, "you sure get around" "You've covered some ground yourself" I replied - "You're not kidding brother!" Crosby sauntered into the room. "Are you going on Bing"? I enquired. "I'll be doing a couple of songs I guess" drawled Bing. "Do you want to rehearse the numbers we're doing together?" Hope asked him. "There's a rehearsal room at the top of the stairs" remarked someone. "Cancell that boy" said Bing to Bob, "I've had enough walking for one day. We'll be okay....What shall I sing solo". "People will be happy to hear you on the old favourites, Bing", I told him - "Yeah, anybody got the sheet music of some of my old numbers for me to look through?" - Bing was handed a somewhat tattered album containing a selection of his best known songs. He gazed at the album cover for a minute. "Look at this" he said ...."Carole Lombard" - The cover picture was of a scene from the film WE'RE NOT DRESSING in which Carole Lombard played leading lady to Crosby in 1934. "Top song of that film was "LOVE THY NEIGHBOR" was'nt it?" I recalled. "That's right" said Bing, "Nice number".

A roar of laughter from the other occupants of the room made me switch my attention back to Bob Hope. Bob was sitting with one foot raised from the ground, a piece of chewing gum was stretch between the sole of his shoe and the floor and the comedian was moving his foot up and down like a yo yo - "Say we could work up quite a comedy act with this" he grinned.

Jerry Desmonde, who was to partner Hope in a comedy double act came into the dressing room a few minutes later - "Hello there Jerry" said Bob "I've been wanting to see you about cutting some of the gags in our act so that I can use them with Bing".

The first half of the show was closed with great success by Donald Peers. After a short interval, the ochestra, under Bobby Howll's direction played THANKS FOR THE MEMORY and Bob Hope was on. When the applause with which he was greeted had died down, Bob looked about him and cracked; "What a place; Looks like Bing Crosby's bathroom!"

=======concluded on page IO==========

BING CROSBY

Family favourite for two generations

Gag-busters: Bing Crosby was special guest on Bob Hope's NBC air show at Fort Ord, following Crosby's Annual Pebble Beach Tournament

The familiar smile

Bing Crosby and his eldest son, Gary,

There followed some fast and furious fun. Of the day Bob said; "It's been wonderful - in spite of the golf match....the British boys finished one up on us; I don't say it was a frame-up, but why were my club handles greased before every shot?...Ted Ray goes to Korea tomorrow; the golf match was good training for him. The four of us are getting a campain medal. Bob had some jokes to make about his old rival Jack Benny; "The last time I saw Jack he was swimming under a toll bridge....They say they'll give him the key to Fort Knox if he'll tell them where he's hidden his gold.

After Bob had sung a couple of numbers, Crosby, who was watching from the wings with me said, "He's singing an awful lot tonight, don't you think?" - but the voice the audience was mainly interested in on this occasion was Bing's. When Bob Hope introduced the "Old Groaner" they whistled, shouted, clapped and stamped with delight.

Bing started off with IT HAD TO BE YOU and, forgetting a couple of lines, crooned "I don't know the next line - Well is'nt that fine?" at the end of the number he drawled; "I know a lot of old songs; what do you want?" in answer many members of the audience shouted out songs that Bing has made famous over the years - Bing did'nt know too well any of the songs he sang though; he'd even forgotten the words of PENNIES FROM HEAVEN, but the audience did'nt care; it was nice just listening to old Bing "boop, boop-a-doop"

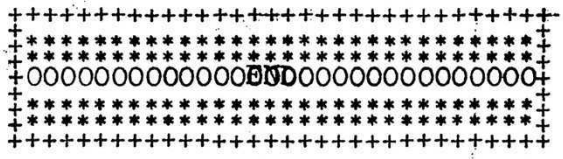
Between numbers Joe Mathews the photographer who took the photos illustrating this article, took photos of Bing. "Hey" Bing shouted, "Take them from the other side, I've got more hair there" - Joe waved and obligingly moved over.

When Bob Hope re-joined Bing on the stage, the two stars sang a parody of ROAD TO MOROCCO which they called "Road To Old Temple" - then they invited Jack Buchanan on stage and the three men executed a little dance - When the curtain rang down to tumultuous applause, a number of celebreties, including Bebe Daniels and Ben Lyon and the of late much discussed Barbara Payton and Tom Neal, came backstage from the auditorium. They were eager to congratulate Bing Crosby and Bob Hope and all the other artists who had given their time to make this a day to remember.

RE-PRODUCED FROM ABC FILM REVIEW Dec I952

Jack also sent the following interesting scrap-book clipping

BING CROSBY - Brunswick LA 8645 - Le Bing goes French, singing (yes in Franch) the song hits of Paris. I can't vouch for his accent, but I really enjoyed this departure. M,sieur Crosby sings eight songs. As far as I am concerned Bing can sing in any language and I would still enjoy it.
RECORD ROUNDUP by BOB FARROW...ABC FILM REVIEW May I954



MATERIAL URGENTLY REQUIRED

Officers and Members of the ICC are requested to check through their files for articles on Bing for the magazine - Personally written articles are prefferred and members are reminded that any material of this nature is most welcome in any form - don't worry if you feel unable to put together an article, send your pennings and we'll do the rest - Members are also reminded that requests for Pen Pals exchange of Crosby records, clippings, photos, trophies etc are always welcome for free inclusion in the magazine ; - That favonite article stored in your files could also be appreciated by a fellow member. so please send it for the magazine.

"I'VE JUST BOUGHT THE BEST RECORD BING EVER MADE!!!"

Frank Murphy attempts to qualify the facts.....

It had been an instant hit at the recent meeting of club members at my home, so it did'nt really surprise me when on his weekly visit, prior to our regular Sunday night out together, my pal John Maughan told me with considerable enthusiasm that "I've just bought the best record Bing Crosby ever made" - John was referring to the new British Ace of Hearts release BING SINGS BELOVED HYMNS.

John's comments set me thinking that some very interesting comments on this theme could come from many club members - speaking personally, my very top favourite Bing record is one I bought many years ago - I've always named it my number one among a host of top Crosby classics and it's called I FOUND A MILLION DOLLAR BABY - recorded in 1931 - it gave me very great pleasure to hear it again on the last round of Tape Crosby and I can say in all honesty that I'd use the heading of this article to describe this magnifient vintage Bing record, especially on the closing minute or so of tremendous drive and voice control demonstrated by the maestro - although I have many other vocal favourites among the male singers - no single performance could ever match this outstanding Crosby performance in my book - I recall other members perso nal favourites that might also be added to the article heading and perhaps the most vivid is Jack Shaw's long time appraisal of the 1934 classic MAY I - I knew Jack would mention this to Bing at Cockermouth and non were more elated than Jack when Bing com ented "Good tune". Ken Robinson always selects TENDERFOOT another great vocal without a doubt, and for many many years Les Gaylor has voiced his personal and highly qualified opinion in favour of the early thirties classic MOONSTRUCK. I think if I had to pick a Crosby vocal that really demonstrated the matchless Crosby style, so unbeatable over the years of popular music, I'd pick THINE ALONE, this to me typifies a Crosby pulling out all the stops, on so many numbers Bing would be unbeatable, but imagine if you hav'nt heard THINE ALONE, and a Crosby pulling out all the stops - what a force to be reckoned with indeed.

It strikes me there must be many members who'd like to take over where I now intend to leave off - just think about it, your very top Bing record - it's easier than picking a top ten really, and I'm sure we'd get some interesting copy for the magazine, so let me have your views and lists for the next and subsequent issued of the magazine - the first article in this new series will appear in the October issue - let's make it a really big responce for this feature.

OLD GROANERS NEVER DIE?.....

THEY JUST FADE AWAY?.....

IF YOU LET THEM!

The international musical papers still striving to plug the electronic garbage that passes for the beat craze have now reached a state where very few Crosby fans take the trouble to buy them - leading British publication New Musical Express found little to interest readers in after an unqualified surprise appearance by the maestro on the high rated EAMON ANDREWS SHOW a one line back page announcement simple said that Bing did not sing on the show - though if it can be reported a credit, the other musical weeklies did'nt even top NME's limited announcment - it's sad also to relate that Bing requests (or those allowed to be aired(are getting noticeably fewer on the airwaves - programmes like HOUSEWIFES CHOICE, once a stronghold for Bingsters and a joy to tune into, is now virtually a closed shop for Bing tunes

cont over.

OLD GROANERS NEVER DIE THEY JUST FADE AWAY IF YOU LET THEM - cont'.

And as Reg Bristo so rightly states in this months columns - many of today's potential record buyers are just not made aware of the current Crosby releases - and also some of the record sales staff are equally disinterested in their jobs to the point where one feels like walking out of the shop in disgust - and to give you an example of the constant frustration one experiences I quote truthfully of a personal experience;- Though EMI kindly sent me a review copy of BING SINGS THE GREAT COUNTRY HITS, I visited WINDOWS record store, the largest in Newcastle on Tyne to buy the tape version of the album for my collection - on entering the store I saw the line-up of tapes neatly stacked for easy viewing by the customers in glass fronted counter serving points, but as I always make a point of making my Crosby requests audible to other record buyers in any store I visit, I said to the girl who came forward " Could I have the tape of BING CROSBY SINGS THE GREAT COUNTRY HITS please?" and without a second thought she immediately replied "Oh he does'nt make tapes" - upon which I was forced to draw her attention to the fact that the very tape I wanted was almost beneath her very nose. Another example occured this week. I had occasion to visit Newcastle to purchase a copy of the Ace Of Hearts release ICHABOD. I had ommited to make a note of the number of my own copy, the one I wanted was for my Australian buddy Keith Hyde - I tried FOUR big Newcastle stores and not only did they Not have the record, not one made an effort even to look up the number or even suggest they would order it for me - This I feel would bear out my article in the last issue re ACE OF HEARTS being way behind the sales activity of EMI and MFP - On the debit side there are a few stores that do try to promote Bing, generally limited to the cases where the owner or sales staff are Bing admirers - I know I'll get ICHABOD from JEAVONS Newcastle and will have to make a visit there on a day other than Wednesday on which they are closed all day. Brian Pattinson was telling me that this particular shop had sold 8 copies of the wonderful BELOVED HYMNS album and had a further 8 copies on order.

Though in these days of beat crazy rhythms and top twenty crazy record stores, album sales have a special place for most and there's no reason whatsoever why Bing should not figure more in most shop displays of same - every member of this club owes their affiliation to the ICC to the fact that we exsist solely to promote Bing and we should ALL voice our dissaproval in no unsertain tones at the shabby treatment MOST record stores mete out to the great redord selling star of all time.....IF YOU LET THEM was the heading of this article, and we must all endeavour to change such a pattern that is without question becoming more and more obvious - the rot that set in in the late 1950's must now be stemmed.....THEY JUST FADE AWAY, what a tragedy if Der Bingle was allowed to fade away - Get out those request cards, send a couple off every week - don't worry if you don't hear your requests, just keep plugging away - write to the press, praise a particular Bing release, or Crosby TV appearanc e remember that someone will always read or hear your views - You owe it to Mr "C", "BING" and the ICC to make sure that OLD GROANERS NEVER DIE.....

LETTERS TO YOUR NEWS MAKES UP

The Editor
BING MAGAZINE
23 Lovaine Place
North Shields
Northumberland

CHARLIE TUPPER. 43 Pames Way, Ewell, Surrey, England
Many thanks for the current BING, it was up to it's usual high standard. I always go straight for Les Gaylor's pages, being a lover of any information on any of Bing's recordings, this is tops. The new Ace of Hearts release BING SINGS FOR

CHILDREN is a real beaut, it is constantly on my turntable, I think it's a great pity no sleeve mention was given to the PENNIES FROM HEAVEN track, many of the less informed Bing collectors could think it was a solo version - Let's hope at some future date Decca can fit in the reverse side of this great recording.

GORDON ELRICK, 28 Gillespie Cres, Ashgrove, Aberdeen, Scotland.
Another first class issue of BING, keep up the good work

WILLIAM BELL, 39 Scrogg Rd, Walkergate, Newcastle on Tyne, England.
The discs from the last auction are great. If any member knows any 78's with better orchestration than I KISS YOUR HAND MADAME, I've yet to hear it - The last mag was great, hav'nt read it all yet, just the tit bits first. Les Phythian is a wonderful writer. As you are no doubt aware it was my birthday, Tues May 2nd, same as the great man, and it made my day to hear Les Gaylor's memo to Bing at 7,20 am on the radio

Mr W HILTON, 47 Sandiway, Bredbury, Stockport, Cheshire. England
I'd like to say how I appreciate and look forward to the ICC magazine each time it is due and hope the club goes from strenth to strenth.

DON LOVE, 23 Marina Gardens, Cheshunt, Herts. England
Very many thanks for the April "BING" and congratulations on another magnificient issue.

BRENDA MILES, 35 Borough Rd, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, England.
Many thanks for the April issue of BING, it was full of interesting articles and comments, the kind one now expects from the magazine. I was very pleased to have seen Bing at the Derby. Did'nt get to speak to him but was able to see him at close range.

FRANK ASHURST, 9 Lichfield Str, Pemberton, Wigan, Lancs, England.
I think the article by Fred Reynolds was completely out of order, sarcastic and uncalled for, I enjoy reading Reg Bristo's columns much better than a straight article and I for one hope he won't cut it down as a result of this article. I really enjoy the magazine as a whole and always look forward to receiving it.

ROBERT DONALDSON, II Prospecthill Cres, Toryglen, Glasgow S2, Scotland.
Thank you for sending me the latest edition of the club magazine, and although I have not had the time to read all of it as yet, it promises to be every bit as interesting as previous issues.

Mr P K LAM, 42 Ho Man Tin Str, 2nd Floor, Kowloon, Hong Kong
I am sure there must be some Crosby fans here too, Bing's records seem to be very short in Hong Kong market, However I shall follow your instructions to promote clubs activity and shall not fail to let you know as soon as future members are come up.

ALAN GRAY 5 Easterville Gdns, Ilford, Essex, England
Thank you for sending me the latest issue of "BING", my only regret is that I wish I had heard of the club before. All the same I'm making up for lost ground, thanks to the excellent reading of the magazine.

PETER CARPENTER, 160 Wellington Rd South, Hounslow, Mddx, England.
Thank you very much for my "BING". Highly enjoyable reading as always - still wading through it in fact.

IAN ARNOTT, ARD GREIAN, North Darklands, By Elgin, Scotland.
A lot of exciting things happening on the Crosby front, what with news of Bing's Australian EP and the hope of more to come. also the chance of Bing's Sentimental Singalong LP being issued. Also with Bing doing so well at the HOLLYWOOD PALACE, it certainly gives us the hope of many happy days ahead

cont on page 14

'continuing'LETTS'TO'THE'ED'

Mr D KOSIFAS, 4627 South Ashland Ave, Chicago, Illinois 60609, USA
Enclosed is a money order for $2.25 - please enrol me as a member of the ICC and send the club magazine to my address above.

Miss EILEEN WATERS, 75 Wolfinton Rd, West Norwood, London SE27, England.
I was surprised to learn than Bing had sung STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT on the Hollywood Palace, when I first heard Frank Sinatra sing it I said that it would have been a good song for Bing to record.

VICTOR GILMORE, 88 Coronation Rd, Wold Rd, Hull, Yorkshire, England.
Just dashing off a few lines now, mainly to let you know that the latest copy of BING has been safely and happily received. This also applies to the recent issue of THE GOLDEN YEARS, and I feel I must again express appreciation and the pleasure it gives me as I browse through all the many interesting article-items, etc., etc,. contained in both the issues,and also my full appreciation for all the work put into the making of them possible.

Mr I D BELL, 95 Embleton Rd, Ladywell, Lewisham, London SEI3, England.
Mr Leslie Gaylor has kindly put me in touch with you to apply for membership of the International Crosby Circle (I heard Mr Gaylor's request for a Crosby record on the BBC last week and wrote to him via the BBC)

Although 29 years of age and probably not, therefore, of the age to have appreciated the Crosby era in 'full bloom', I have a large collection of Bing's records dating from I927 and am one of his greatest followers.

While working in CEYLON in I96I, I had a weekly half hour programme of my own on RADIO CEYLON called "BING SINGS". In each programme (a total of I8) I played Crosby records of the era I927 to I960 together with a comentary on the man, the song and the accompaniment, gathered from as much information as I could obtain. Each programme was beamed four times a week on the Asian, South-East Asian, All India and Radio Ceylon networks. The responce was good and I had letters from places ranging from ADEN to AUSTRALIA.

Ever since that time, I have been trying to get in touch with the British Crosby Society and now have finally done it - I didhowever have the great privilege of meeting Bing in the Savoy Hotel, London in June I965 - only for 2 or 3 minutes though.

EDDIE RICE, 647 Lanny Avenue, La Puente, California 91744, USA
I recently arranged for Derek Parkes to be able to meet with my good friend JOHN SCOTT TROTTER, while John was in England and I have approached Derek to write an article relating to the details of his meeting. I'm certain all the members would be interested in reading of the famous John Scott.

LES PHYTHIAN 60 Grant Avenue, Wavertree, Liverpool I5, England.
Believe it or not, this really is the first decent opportunity I've had to write and say how much I enjoyed the latest example of your tireless labours, the April issue of BING. I thought it was an outstanding issue in many ways. Fret not about the gentle chidings of Fred Reynolds. His criticisms are well-intentioned, I think, and there is of course a certain amount of truth in the points he makes- just as there is in your published reply to his observations.

ALASDAIR FENTON, 3I Glenfarm Rd, Newarthill, Motherwell, Lanarkshire, Scotland.
Being the first time I have seen the magazine "BING" I hope you will find my comments of some interest - On average, layout extremely good - but in some places far too cramped especially page I, which I think could be split into page I for contents index and page 2 for editorial - MEMBERS LETTERS - could we not have them at the end of the mag, then you can increase/decrease depending on material used for each issue. INFORMATION CORNER - excellent idea especially for readers who don't have the Crosby discography; REG BRISTO COLUMNS - very interesting to read about Jack

- have heard private tapes of what Jack thinks about 78's, but that's another story and who knows he might even see "BING" on the Canary Isles.
Also very interesting to read about songs referring to Bing Crosby. I have got this record MY KIDS A CROONER, sung by Frances Day and 5 year old Sybil Jason with the New Mayfair Dance Orchestra on HMV. To add info how about the following.

EENEY MEENEY MINEY MO - Jack Hylton Orch - Vocal Peggy Dell, and the line...."Big Ben rings it, Vallee sings it, Goodman swings it, and even Mr Crosby Bings it"
And then on DINAH - the band that money can't buy - Pat O' Mally says Bing Crosby and Joe Venuti, and then proceeds to do an impersonation of Crosby. This was issued on a Decca 78, and can currently be heard on ACE OF CLUBS ACL 1205.

RON BOSLEY and ALAN LURIE "MOVIE FILE"; excellent idea giving full casts etc on the earlier Crosby films.....more please!!

Mr F STARKEY, 8 Langbourne Hse, Effra Parade, Brixton, London SW2, England.
Thank you for the magazine you sent me. As usual it was first class in every way and I enjoyed reading it.

FRED REYNOLDS, 69 Heathmere Avenue, Yardley, Birmingham 25, England.
I was interested to read your most civil comments on my article in the last issue of the magazine. Some of the points I made you appear to accept, and, indeed, even support with further augument so that I find it a little surprising to read your concluding remarks that the magazine is just as you wish it to be.

If, as seems the case, you think that I object to your thanking contributers then I am afraid you have the wrong impression,. What I find slightly nauseating is an excessive expression of gratitude far beyond anything one might reasonably expect. As for my not liking the effort of your young contributer I have not the slightest objection to childishness - in fact I find it has an irresistable charm - provided, of course, that it emanates from children.

BRIAN PATTINSON, I03 Ravensworth Rd, Gateshead, Co Durham, England.
Having a great time on holiday here in Jersey, weather is glorious and there are plenty of Bing fans out here - Also there are four pubs which have Bing records on the juke boxes - GIGI, WHERE THE BLUE OF THE NIGHT, the EP SING ALONG WITH BING and an EP of early 30's songs.

DOUGLASS BLACK, 25 Egmont Tce, Hawthorne, South Australia
I have now read thoroughly, completely absorbed, and intensely enjoyed both "BING" and "THE GOLDEN YEARS", April issues. As before I will make random remarks, and naturally if you wish to quote any of them in either magazine, you're welcome. This may apply more to The Golden Years, because this is such a wide subject, and as I said in my recent air letter, there's more scope for "random remarks" However, I do enjoy "BING" too, especially (as you know) the factual features such as Les Gaylor's columns, and the Reg Bristo jottings.

We have read somewhere that an Australian collector is known to have dubs of unissued masters such as A DOOR WILL OPEN, and we in Adelaide are at a loss to know who it is. Perhaps it's Keith Hyde. In any case whoever it is might be sworn to secrecy by his supplier of this material. I had a slight example of this myself some years ago when I got dubs of B779 LEARN TO CROON, HAPPY HAPPY HAPPY WEDDING DAY, and YOU TOOK ADVANTAGE OF ME, etc. The same friend also sent me unasked for, commercial pressings of rare ones like I FOUND YOU and EARLY AMERICAN (L3749). Then later, the complete set, including dealers promotion folder and extra disc (with one track off each disc) in the set of BING'S HOLLYWOOD. Some of these have regular black Decca labels, others have pink "sample copy" labels. But I assure you I am not the Australian who has the unissued masters; Although I do understand that he might not be free to allow copies to go here there and everywhere.

I enjoyed reading Keith Hyde's report and regret I don't keep in closer touch with I must write and tell him that I have (but I'm afraid NOT to part with) two of the

cont's on next page

continuing LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Doug Black continues-;
songs he listet which mentioned Bing in the lines, or at least one is about Bing;- IT IS CROSBY - WHO ELSE COULD IT BE? I have a IO" W+G pressing of this - one side Len Davis on the Hammond Organ without vocal and the other side, Len Davis with Doris Turner singing. I also have a I2" V.B. Harmony pressing of the song by Bob Gibson and his Band with vocals by Pam Corrigan and Geoff Brooke. This is a wonderful rendition, and Bob Gibson's Orchestra is now very popular on Bobby Limb's weekly TV show SOUND OF MUSIC. The other song Keith mentioned was MY KIDS A CROONER on HMV EAI474 by The New Mayfair Orchestra, made just after Ray Noble left for USA in I934. As you mentioned in "BING" Frances Day sings on this, but also there is a chorus by a little girl, by name, Sybil Jason (neice of pianist Harry Jacobson) she also sings the lyrics about "writing to Mr Crosby" and at the end of the recording she splutters "boo-boo-boo-boo"

I have noticed recently rseveral references to the "B" master of MR GALLAGHER AND MR SHEAN. No doubt sing the "B" as meaning "alternative" master. Because as I understood it, the"regular" original issued master was the "E", and the later vitally different one issued was the "A". I quite believe the two versions are 4 renditions apart, too, because Mercer in particular is much less tunefull on the "A". By the time they got to the "E" master, he had the basic melody much more firmly fixed in his mind.

I do hope the two BING SINGS EP's are combined on an LP. This was a wonderful achievement by the English collectors, having these issued. My favourites are MOMENTS TO REMEMBER, SUDDENLY THERE'S A VALLEY and SOMETHING IN COMMON - all on one EP, but I did boy both.

-Reg Bristo wondered whether BALLAD FOR AMERIöANS gives a slight idea of how Bing would have sounded in operetta - well, maybe, but the recording which does suggest that "the possibilities there" is Bing's Decca duet with Dorothy Kirston ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN, and perhaps another example, his I936 Decca FOR LOVE ALONE, one of his seldom mentioned masterpieces in my opinion

I enjoyed Michael Crampton's BRITISH REPORT, and by the way, I have both the USA and English versions of Bing's book CALL ME LUCKY. But my English edition is an abridged version. It has a hard cover, and a dust jacket, but runs to only 253 pages with no index (not 344,, as Michael said.

COLIN PUGH, 29 Picton Str, Montpelier, Bristol 6, England.
I have delayed writing until fully digesting the April issue of "BING" (for which many thanks - terrific as usual)

EILEEN KNIGHT 57 Burlington Road, West Bromwich, England
I don't know whether you will remember sending me Bing's address so that I could send him a birthday card (which I did(, well, returning from my holidays yesterday I found a reply waiting - it reads;

Dear Friend,

I wish to thank you for your kind Birthday greetings - BING.

I bought a copy of Bing's Ace of Hearts record BING IN PARIS, it's very good and my favourite is SYMPHONY - I always believe that Bing sounds so much better without a loud background.

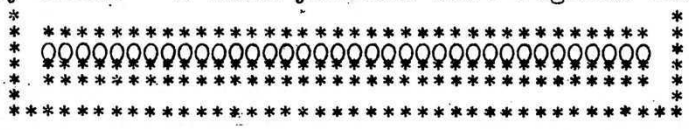
I enjoyed the last issue of the magazine and it was very nice to see my name on your list re the article A LITTLE BIT OF IRISH - You said Bing looked old in the show, you know, I did'nt notice it, I enjoyed it so much, he was wonderful and his singing was grand. It's so warm, deep, sincere - wraps round you like a shawl.

In I96I when Bing was here, I wrote him a letter which he not only replied too, thanking me!! for my kind interest (how about that for modestyP he sent me a smashing photo and his autograph "Regards to Eileen - Bing Crosby" - which I treasure like gold

SAMUEL STERNBERG, Ness Ziona POB I9, Nechemia Str, I30. Israel. I0-June-67
Suddenly the tense days vanished as nothing happened the last three weeks and especially this week., Perhaps that is the reason why I have forgotten that a new issue (April) of BING is on it's way to me and I was really surprised to read all the vast material. In a way the journal seemed to me more normal than all the wars and the fighting; For almost interuppted days our radio was overflowed with marches and songs of war and I was thinking of Bing if he has ever sung a song of war? I could not believe it but would like very much to ask you or one of our members for information on that problem. Anyway Bing's voice was the right way to calm down considering sitting in the blackout. I was lucky a friend of mine had some of his olds which still were nice tobe heard. He was rather astonished when I recommanded on Bing but did not regret it and at the end was really nostalgic and grateful . Imagine we could not even read the labelling on the disc.

I have shown Fred Reynolds harsh critic to a college of mine who is a teacher in English in secondary school. She was excited and asked for permission to copy his article as an excerside for her pupils. Now it is interesting to know is not Fred connected with teaching or am I wrong? - anyway she thinks it is an excellent essay worth reading and study to which I fully agree. But that does not mean I agree with the opinions he expresses - not at all, maybe I am still a new visitor but I enjoy every line of "BING" for reason I can see were printed already in previous issue. No reason to repeat them again. I agree with Frank the problam is how to please everyone and that is an impossible task. I don't see any wrong with critics like that of Fred, on the contrary I enjoyed his very much.

Speaking of Bing songs on radio perhaps one day th s silly barrier ours and your broadcaster put against Bing songs will fall and we'll be able to condense our contents. Anyhow not all information may be interesting to everyone but it is valuable only in years ahead. Why not call it rather academic? I believe that gives Bing it's respect we all need so much. For example I sent for triam and informative interest a list out of many to our National Broadcaster Archive and they could not match up. This was almost new to them. Why not show people we know more than they guess? So I say: Put it in every item. I wish you all best regards and further luck with ICC.



Our sincere thanks to all this months contributers to Letters to the Editor, for a long time now we've been hoping to present an extended 'letters section' but always, in spite of larger issues, we just hav'nt had the space available. This time, we did have extra space available and we think, in presenting this larger feature, we've added to the always apparent interest that the letters page holds - Also, because a big responce and members reaction to some of the views and opinions expressed, is expected - we also plan a big letters section in the next issue - if you'd like to comment on the many topical items of interest, please do so and at the same time you'll be helping to build up this feature into a regularly enlarged section - special thanks go to ALASDAIR FENTON for a very interesting debut in the pages of "BING", to DOUG BLACK for a very informative letter, to MR I D BELL, a member who we are sure can be relied upon to support the aims and ideas of the ICC - and also to DEREK PARKES via EDDIE RICE - if Derek can find the time to send an article on our new Hon Member, the great JOHN SCOTT TROTTER, this would be a must for the pages of the journal. Finally to all the other members for their interesting snippets of appreciation and information - it's a fact that we could fill a magazine this size with the truly fantastic mailbag that comes in after each "BING" goes out, and we hope therefore that you don't mind your letters being shorten'd to allow us to mention as many members as space permits.

INFORMATION CORNER

LESLIE GAYLOR

THE LONGINES SYMPHONETTE RECORDINGS
A letter to me from the Longines Society states that the volume of sales indicates that THE BING CROSBY TREASURY and all our other treasuries have been well received by the consumer.

BING SINGS SHELL
This famous jingle by Bing was recorded on November 8th 1961 at the Cine and Tele Sound Studios, Bayswater, London. Bing entered the studios at 1.50, learnt the jingle, shook hands with many people, signed autographs and left the studios at 2.20 - This is a typical example of quick Crosby recording and among the 36 piece orchestra present at the session was TED HEATH'S brass section. Jingle king' Johnny Johnston wrote me that Bing was one of the most proffessional persons he had ever had the priviledge of working with.

WHIFFENPOOF SONG/KENTUCKY BABE
A printed report from an old copy of the MELODY MAKER states that Bing recorded these two songs and both within 20 minutes of entering the studio.

ST LOUIS BLUES
An interesting note from Mr Norrie Paramor the orchestra leader and Artists and Records Manager of COLUMBIA RECORDS dept of EMI Records - "When we took over the 'release rights' of this recording in 1938 we were sent the "B" master take, and as you know we do not now have the release rights of this recording of St Louis Blues

BBC RECORD LIBRARY
I have read that the BBC Record library boasts some three quarters of a million records. KEN SYKORA at my request checked the library and wrote that he could find no trace of Bing's recording of HOW LONG WILL IT LAST and BEAUTIFUL GIRL - Years ago I did hear the latter on BBC programmes but one wonders what really happens to their records - For example BBC personality CLIFF MICHELMORE who was born on the Island in Cowes and spent his boyhood here and once came over here for a weekend and presented a local youth club with about 100 throw out BBC discs consisting of 78s and single sided promotion discs.

A WRY SMILE
A comment to me from Bing as we sat at a table at the SAVOY HOTEL - LONDON. "They've asked me to go on WHATS MY LINE on BBC TV" Excited me "Are you going to be on it Bing?" Bing-"No, I told them I had a cold" A smile conveyed to me that he had'nt and I let the subject drop.

UNISSUED RECORDINGS
A note from DECCA RECORDS.USA of some years ago listed for me a few unissued recordings they had on hand.

A DOOR WILL OPEN
WHERE THE TURF MEETS THE SURF
OH YOU CRAZY MOON
LET ME LOOK AT YOU
LIZA

THANKS..CROSBY CLASSIC SONG
A press report some years ago stated that Bing and his son Philip were due to record this song - seems it never materialised - a query to a source in the USA regarding this song remains unanswered.

TEMPTATION
A note from English Columbia of quite some years ago says that it appears Bing's recording of Temptation was the best seller of the Bing recordings they re-issued ontheir label - Previously it was on the Brunswick label.

BING AND SATCHMO SESSION
During the recording sessions of the Bing and Satchmo album Bing took time out to phone CHARLES GRAVES in London and mentioned four titles he had just recorded On putting the phone down Mr Graves wrote me a note and next day I knew of the four songs recorded - This is the quickest Bing recording data I have ever had. In effect it was a day after Bing taped the four tracks.

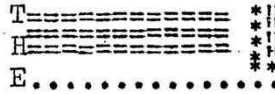
BRITISH COLUMBIA SEG7522
We all know it is easy to be wise after the event but I only wish I had obtained more than one copy of this EP released by Columbia - it is most sought after by a good many people and really it was a most interesting release - sorry I can't help but here at least are the titles

HAPPY GO LUCKY YOU.....HOW DEEP IS THE OCEAN...
LOVE ME TONIGHT.....TRY A LITTLE TENDERNESS.

I made a brief mention of the following album set in my last INFORMATION CORNER and here is some added information to those who were interested in further data.

A MUSICAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF BING CROSBY

TITLE	MASTERTAPE NO!	RECORDED
MUDDY WATER	91400A	24-4-54
MISSISSIPPI MUD	91400A	"
MY KINDA LOVE	91400A	"
I SURRENDER DEAR	91401A	"
IT MUST BE TRUE	91401A	21-4-54
WRAP YOUR TROUBLES IN DREAMS	91401A	"
OUT OF NOWHERE	91402A	16-6-54
JUST ONE MORE CHANCE	91402A	21-4-54
STARDUST	91402A	16-6-54
SWEET AND LOVELY	91403A	21-4-54
WHERE THE BLUE OF THE NIGHT	91403A	"
PARADISE	91403A	"
PLEASE	91403A	"
JUST AN ECHO IN THE VALLEY	91404A	"
A GHOST OF A CHANCE	91404A	"
LEARN TO CRO N	91404A	"
DOWN THE OLD OX ROAD	91404A	3-5-54
THANKS	91405A	21-4-54
BLACK MOONLIGHT	91405A	3-5-54
THE DAY YOU CAME ALONG	91405A	"
AFTER SUNDOWN	91406A	"
TEMPTATION	91406A	"
LOVE THAT NEIGHBOR	91406A	"
MAY I	91406A	"
LOVE IN BLOOM	91407A	"
I LOVE YOU TRULY	91407A	"
JUNE IN JANUARY	91407A	"
LOVE IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER	91407A	"
IT'S EASY TO REMEMBER	91408A	"
SOON	91408A	16-6-54
I WISHED IN THE MOON	91408A	3-5-54
SILENT NIGHT	91409A	"
I'M AN OLD COWHAND	91409A	"
I CAN'T ESCAPE FROM YOU	91409A	19-6-54
SONG OF THE ISLANDS	91409A	3-5-54
PENNIES FROM HEAVEN	91410A	19-6-54
SWEET LEILANI	91410A	3-5-54
BLUE HAWAII	91410A	"
THE ONE ROSE	91410A	16-6-54
THERE'S A GOLDMINE IN THE SKY	91411A	"
MY HEART IS TAKING LESSONS	91411A	"
I'VE GOT A POCKETFULL OF DREAMS	91411A	"
MEXICALI ROSE	91412A	"
THAT SLY OLD GENTLEMAN	91412A	"
EL RANCHO GRANDE	91413A	"
TUMBLING TUMBLEWEEDS	91413A	"
ONLY FOREVER	91413A	"
DID YOUR MOTHER COME FROM ISLAND	91414A	"
BRAHMS LULLABY	91414A	"



"Australian Round -Up of Current Crosbyana." From Keith G. Hyde

"HAZEL LANDS SCOOP TALK WITH CROSBY." - So read the front page headlines in the Australian "LISTENER IN, T.V." of April 28th 1967 - Australian T.V. Personality Hazel Phillips scored an international "scoop" when she talked Bing Crosby into an interview in Hollywood last week.

Hazel was travelling on a jet inaugural flight with her producer, Judy Petrie, and camera-man, Greg Hunter, to Hollywood, San Francisco and Hawaii.

One of her major ambitions was to obtain an interview with Bing Crosby for her A.T.V.O. Show, "Girl Talk," but Hollywood contacts warned her that Crosby had never allowed a T.V. interviewer into his home.

After a great deal of trouble she finally found Crosby's home telephone number and rang it.

At first he gave his usual blunt refusal for a T.V. interview, but she pleaded with him, stressing that she had come all the way from Australia and she wanted particularly to have him on her show.

Finally Crosby relented and invited Hazel to visit his home. They talked in front of the camera for 20 minutes in Crosby's garden and then Bing allowed the camera-man to film scenes around his home.

Hazel's success caused a stir in Hollywood Press circles who had given up all hopes of a personal interview with Crosby.

Here is a transcripted account of the interview and Hazel's report:-

We engaged a taxi to go quite a long way out of San Francisco city itself, along the big "free-way," out towards the hills and Bing's house is in the very beautiful suburb of Hillsborough, (something like the suburb of Bellview Hill, here in Sydney) which had great big, magnificient houses and enormous trees everywhere. It was a very wet miserable day, which is unusual for San Francisco, we're told and I felt tired and miserable but soon changed when I began to see the scenery and anticipate the excitement of meeting Bing.

Here is his house, (number 1200) and this is the driveway. Quite an incredibly beautiful house. On reaching the front door, the first thing we heard was Bing's whistle coming down the hall.

And here he is - Bing himself - It is such a thrill for me which I can't even describe. And here is the interview
HAZEL - Hello Bing.
BING - Good morning Hazel. This is a Show called "Girl Talk." What am I doing on a show called "Girl Talk!" Ionly have one girl out of seven children, to me that qualifies me huh?
HAZEL - I think all the girls watching will be swooning now Bing.
BING - I doubt that; no, I'm past that stage now.
HAZEL - Don't you beleive it. I think that you should come to Australia because you'd be amazed at the people who would turn out to see you.
BING - I've been yearning to go out there for many years and I don't know, something always seems to interfere. I don't just want to go out for a quick look and then come home. I'd like to go out and do some fishing and try the trout streams that I've heard so much about. I want to see some racing and play some of the good golf courses they have there, and you know that takes time, so I just didn't want to go out to Australia until I had a couple of months to devote to the visit.
HAZEL - Well, we feel this about San Francisco. We're only here for three days. It's silly trying...
BING - How long? You can't see much in three days. It's a nice city though and I always

say San Francisco, New Orleans, and New York are the only three cities in United States that have a character of their own. They're so distinctive and unusual.
HAZEL - You have an absolutely beautiful home here.
BING - Thank you Hazel. Thank you very much. I must apologise for the weather. It's driven us under cover this morning; it's most unusual. We've had a beautiful winter. We've had long, long periods of good clear sunny weather, but the rains have settled in now and of course the farmers are happy and the golfers are sad.
HAZEL - You do a lot of golfing don't you?
BING - Whenever I can yes. Of course I don't play as well as I used to - passage of years - age, and the infirmities of age, have ruined me, have taken their toll, and I don't play as well, but I sure like to try.
HAZEL - What are you doing in the way of Movies at the moment. Are you doing any?
BING - I have a couple of prospects but they haven't really been firmed up to a point where you could say they were comitments. One involves a picture to be done in Switzerland - about the Monks up there in the Alps that have these St. Bernard dogs. Got a script and part of the cast, but now it's just a question of the Producer getting enough "loot" together to finance the project. It will be an interesting thing because we'll all move to Switzerland and stay there until the pictures finished. And then there's another picture involving a small boy in an under-privelaged area in Los Angeles, and that's a possibility, but mostly for the last 12 months I've just been in Television and I do 14 or 15 T.V. Specials a year. Most of them just involve 3 or 4 days work apiece, so it's been pretty easy for me. About time, I think. The public's getting tired of looking at my kisser.
HAZEL - Oh don't say that Bing!
BING - Don't you think so?
HAZEL - One of my favourite films in later years was "High Society." Did you enjoy that one?
BING - It was a great deal of fun. It's a good story. It was "The Philadelphia Story", as a play. I think it was made once as a silent picture with Katherine Hepburn but I'm not sure about that, and it had the Cole Porter music, it had a marvellous cast, with the Princess.
HAZEL - Grace Kelly.
BING - Madamoiselle Kellie and Frank Sinatra, Louis Armstrong. As I say, the Cole Porter music and good production such as M.G.M. gives all it's big musicals. It really was a nice experience. I enjoyed that picture.
HAZEL - Do you have one particularly favourite leading lady.
BING - I would think Miss Kelly. Not only because she is a fine actress, but because she's a wonderful woman, a great sense of humour, lot's of laughs all the time when you're working with her, she's got class and quality and an outstanding young lady, I think.
HAZEL - She seems a bit cold.
BING - Not so, when you get to know her. Not so at all, no. She's very warm in fact. I think she has more friends among the crew on the picture than any other actress I've ever worked with...the electricians, the carpenters, the grips, the property men are all buddies of hers. She remembered all their birthdays and their anniversaries of all kinds. She gave little parties for them and tea parties and she had a nice warm atmosphere prevailing on the set all the time. She's really not a cold personality at all. She's very warm and has an infectious type of personality, I think.
HAZEL - Do you have one picture that's your particular favourite?
BING - Mmmm - Lets see.
HAZEL - There's an awful lot to choose from, I think.
BING - There's an awful lot of them I'd like to forget! I suppose "Going Up Way" was a lot of fun and a picture called "Little Boy Lost" I enjoyed being in. I thought it was a good little story; simple picture; simple story, but I think the plot was well done. George Seaton directed it and his record is pretty good.
HAZEL - Well I just don't really know how to ask you things.
BING - Well tell me about Australia. What's going on over there? Do you follow horse racing at all.
HAZEL - No, I'm afraid I don't really.
BING - They tell me they've got a mare over there thats beaten all the colts at all distances and weights and I wondered if you knew her name because some friends of mine were thinking of trying to buy her. You can't recall the name of that mare?

HAZEL - Oh no you see how hopeless I am.
BING - I think we'll get a lot of mail now about it because she's probably a big favourite, but she's from New Zealand, you're from Australia. She's won all the big races in Australia too according to my information. She won practically everything a horse can win in Australia.
HAZEL - I'll probably think of it the moment we stop.
BING - Well send me a card will you, when you get on the Aeroplane.
HAZEL - I know what I did want to ask you. When you were in the "Road" pictures with Bob Hope. It seems to me (well to everyone I'm sure) a terriffic comrade between you.
BING - Well that was probably because I knew him for a long time and before we did the pictures, we worked together in Vauderville together on the same bill, and we played golf together and when the pictures started we were good friends to begin with and we had a certain la-lour and a certain base for kidding or needling which we could always resort to and the "Road" pictureswere great fun, because although we had a script there was'nt any religious adherance to the words as put down by the writer and so we could add-lib or say what ever we wanted and Miss Lamour would be in the middle looking like someone at a tennis match and that's the way they were done. Well she was a good sport about it and they were great fun to make, I think. I enjoyed them better than anything I've ever done.
HAZEL - Yes, well they looked like it. The one I liked best was the one where you went off on the "Road To Morocco".
BING - Yes, with all the Sheiks and the camels - one spat in Hope's eye, (which he richly deserved).
HAZEL - Isn't he wonderful.
Hazel continued narration of the film at this point -
The film cut off a bit sharp there, but it's obvious, that when we were talking, (apart from the filming) how friendly they were and what a marvellous atmosphere there must have been on the set of these "Road" pictures. Also I think it's quite obvious that I was rather over-awed by talking to Bing and I just <u>couldn't</u> think <u>what</u> to ask him because he was so charming and so co-operative and wanted to be so helpful and I couldn't think the horse's name - "Light Fingers" and so on with the interview -
HAZEL - This is a beautiful dog you have here Bing.
BING - Isn't it? His names Remous. He's a laborador retriever. He's getting along in years now, he's about 10, so we don't hunt him anymore but in his career he's had some great exploits in the field and he's sired a long list of useful progenies, that we hope will repeat his successes retrieving ducks, pheasants and quails, chickens and what ever.
HAZEL - I think he must reflect the house he lives in. He seems very placid and calm, as you do.
BING - Well that's characteristic of the breed. Laboradors are not very excitable. They don't bark a great deal and they don't give off an odour and they're pretty tractable, if they're good.
HAZEL - And I guess it's pretty gentle with the kids.
BING - The kids wrestle with him and throw him down, and I've never seen him in a fight with another dog or seen him "mean" or in any way truculant.
HAZEL - How old are your second family?
BING - A boy 8, a girl 7, boy 5 - Harry, Mary Francis, Nathaniel Patrick.
HAZEL - And do they show any talent for show business?
BING - Well they've shown a real interest in "show biz". We've used them a couple of times on "The Hollywood Palace" and they've all appeared with their mother in a musical version of Peter Pan, last Xmas, but then we got 'em home quickly, dust 'em off and put them back in the trunk and get them out of that atmosphere for a while because at that age I don't think it's good to have them in show business. But they really have a facility for it. Mary Francis, when ever she can puts on her mother's clothes or works some sort of costume with an old drape, and she writes a play - 'course she has all the dialogue, everybody else is silent. She gets Mat all dressed-up and he never gets a line and it makes him mad; she gets <u>all</u> the speaches; she's very funny is that little girl, infact I think she's going to be quite a young lady; she's curious about everything, she has a good mind, she skipped a few grades at school, good student, but very competitive. I'll tell you a cute story about her. - When we were over in England last year, way up in Northern England, I was doing a salmon fishing film for American T.V. - It was her birthday, so we called long-distance all the way across England, the Pacific and the Atlantic, all the way down the U.S. to get her on the phone and we wished her a Happy Birthday.

It happened she was in school so we had to call switch to school and it happened she was in class, so we asked the Principle, Mr Brown, if she could come out to his office, so we could wish her Happy Birthday, so she came out and I got on the phone and she said, "Hello Daddy" and I said Hello Mary Francis, this is your birthday and I want to sing "Happy Birthday" for you and when I had finished she said, "Oh that's lovely, sing it again for Mr Brown. (Laughter) And he couldn't have cared less! She's quite a girl, and I don't know, but when she grows up I think she's going to be a real problem for somebody. Harry is very musically inclined, he's taking piano and guitar and he shows a facility for both. He's got a good ear, but more important he has a zest for the instrument - you don't have to thump him to get him to practice. Whenever he's not doing anything he's in here at the piano, running over the scales. He knows a few little tunes; then he gets his guitar out and of course it's a big instrument for a kid of that age to learn because his hands are small and they can't make all the frets and stops, but we really think he's got a good career in music. Nathaniel so far, well he's just a cute little boy.

HAZEL - Your other family, or older boys?

BING - Well Gary's very busy in Show Business. He's been in New York for a month, in a play, then in Chicago a couple of months, in a play. He does a lot of T.V. work and Phillip, who I think is the best singer of them all, has a wonderful voice, but he's a little lazy this kid. He doesn't care too much about work. At the moment he's taking a show to Vietnam and Okinaha. Wherever we have troops to entertain them and I'm sure he'll do a good job. We're rather proud of him for taking an assignment like this. There's not much fun in it, it's work, and it's work under difficult conditions. He's been out there twice before, this is the third time, so we think it's very worth while.

HAZEL - It seems to me that you've always been a big star. How did you first start in Show Business?

BING - Well, I started in Show Business at College. I had a little band, dance band, then I started singing with the band. Then I got singing in the local Theatres, along with the film presentation. If there was a picture about the sea, then I'd come out before the picture and sing a couple of sea songs; if it was a western picture, I'd sing a couple of western songs, anything atmosphere. Then we went to L. A. A piano player and myself and then we worked up a little double act; we played around L. A. in Cafes and Vauderville and then we were signed up with Whiteman and we went with Whiteman and his band for a couple of years; toured all over the U.S. and then we went out with the Rhythm Boys and we had an act and toured Vauderville 2 or 3 years. Then I got in the "Coconut Grove" here in L.A. with the Band singing and Mr Paley of the C.B.S. heard some four of our broadcasts and some of the records I'd made, and he had me go on C.B.S. Radioand that was the start of it all, and following the good advice, that I told you about earlier, why we just kinda rolled along.

HAZEL - But I think you'd have to have a very special sort of temperment. Do you like Hollywood and all that it represents?

BING - I sure do, and I'm grateful to Hollywood and all it's done for me. There's some wonderful people in Hollywood. Some amusing people, some very literate people and of course anything that happens there, in the way of scandle is played up so big in the press that you'd think the whole town was full of incidents of that type, which is not true at all. It's a very hard working town, as you know. People have to get up at the crack of dawn, work all day and I don't think any of us have enough energy left afterthe day to get into much trouble.

HAZEL - I was there just over night and everybody seemed to go to bed at 7 O'Clock.

BING - Well they have to. Particularly the ladies because with their hair they have to have done everyday, it means getting up at 5.45 A.M. and they never leave the Studio before 7 P.M. so I think they're probably bone tired when they get through and they're not going to get into much trouble.

HAZEL - You were saying to me before that you think it's much harder for young people to get on in the business today.

BING - Competition is much keener, there's so many people, young people too that can sing, play instruments and act and they're all looking for a break, they're all looking to get their foot in the door. When I started I don't think there was more than 3 or 4 fellows, of my particular type, that sang the kind of songs I sang, for singing in what they called crooning. Rudy Valley started it, I s'pose. The opportunities were so much greater but all you had to do was just stay out of troubleand work a little bit and if you had any ability why your fortune was assured.

HAZEL - I don't think that's entirely true, though. I think from what I can tell in the 30s there seemed to be many more individuals then than there are now.
BING - Many more individuals as opposed to groups?
HAZEL - Yes, and individual actors and actresses. Don't you think?
BING - Well they're looking for new faces all the time. Anybody of course that really shows some promise, they grab them right away, if they think they will catch on. It's a very strange thing who catches on and who doesn't. It's some sort of a cannister attempt to analyse. What makes so-and-so a star and someone of apparently the same physical appearance and with the same talent, never get anywhere. Some communication comes over between the artist and an audience, that you can't put your finger on. It doesn't have to be good looks and it doesn't have to be beauty, it's something that's - ephemeral.
HAZEL - Well Bing, I can't tell you, how wonderful it's been to see you.
BING - Well, what a chance it's been for me to get to say "Hello" to everyone in Australia. For so many years I've got so many nice letters from people down there and I've met most of the horse racing people from there, who come over here, and of course I know all your golfers, the good professionals that come up, the amateurs. I really have an affinity for Australia and New Zealand and for that whole area, and try those fabulous trout streams that I've read so much about. I have all the literature on them, -All the books that have been written by Americans who have gone down there and by Australians and New Zealanders too! - And the fishing must be really fabulous there and of course I do a lot of "Salt Water" fishing too and there's been some giant fish taken down there. I generally fish with light tackle. I have a little place down in Ba-Ha, California, which is in Mexico about 1,000 miles south of San Diago and we try to take big fish on real light tackle; trying to get record fish and I've come pretty close; within a couple of pounds several times, on Dolphin Rooster fish, Marlin, but I haven't made it yet, but I'm <u>not</u> ready to give it up!
HAZEL - I think we're just about out of film.
BING - Out of film! What! Are you running short ends here, just old hunks you have left over; you brought to my house Huh! (Chuckles) Don't you have a full reel you could have spared for this little junjet! (Chuckles) Thank you Hazel, I enjoyed it. I hope you have a good time here in San Francisco.
HAZEL - Oh I <u>Love</u> it.
BING - I must apologize for the weather because when the sun is shining it's a different city entirely.
HAZEL - Thank you Bing, Thanks very much.
BING - Goodbye and thank <u>you</u> Hazel.

Hazel then comments - Well after all this we had a walk across Bing's magnificient lawns, where a pool is now being filled in. Greg, of course, (out cameraman) had to do the job properly. He had to film 2 or 3 times to make sure of it; at Bing's request. Afterwards Bing took us up to his study, which is lined throughout with the most beautiful carved wood and the whole thing was brought over from England. The lounge room too was one of the Hurst Collection with a big marble fire-place. You know I think Bing Crosby is one of those rare people that you can meet and he seems <u>exactly</u> as you have always imagined him to be. To me, Bing Crosby was exactly right and there was nothing about him, that made me think, - That's not the Bing I knew from Movies, T.V. and records. He was lovely; his house, his family and even his dog reflected him as well; it was a really wonderful experience and probably the most exciting and rewarding experience of my life.

EDITORIAL CREDITS

The editor wishes to extend sincere thanks to BRENDA HARMAN for typing Keith's AUSTRALIAN REPORT - to LES PHYTHIAN for typing his CAN'T WE TALK IT OVER feature - to REG BRISTO for typing his columns and RALPH HARDING for sending the CROSBY COLLECTOR advert already in stencil form for easy inclusion in this issue - Members with typwriters can assist us very much by preparing their own articles for the magazine - please apply for these if you are able to help in this direction.

LES PHYTHIAN's quarterly miscellany of Crosbyana.....

CAN'T WE TALK IT OVER?

Yes, of course we can. And we will - though perhaps a little more perfunctorily than I'd have wished, due to generally adverse circumstances including a recent spell of illness which has involved some fairly protracted hospital treatment. Since then - to some extent as a result - pressures all round have been greater than ever, so that these lines have had to be thrown together rather unceremoniously. Apologies in advance, therefore, if my innate shortcomings as a scribe are more pronounced than usual.

Space limitations last time made it necessary for me to omit a few lines from my remarks about "Kentucky Babe", and it's possible that some readers may be interested to learn that this song (so pleasantly recorded by Bing in 1947) was composed as long ago as 1896. The words are by Richard Henry Buck to the music of Adam Geibel, and the chances are they would both have been astonished could they have known that the unpretentious little ballad they concocted so many years ago was destined to become one of the most popular items of all time in American male quartet and glee club circles.

Mention of male quartets prompts me warmly to endorse Reg Bristo's comments (Issue No. 5 - January 1967) about the Mills Brothers, unquestionably the finest close-harmony team of them all. Their marvellous singing, easy-on-the-ear rhythmic expertise and stylish professionalism have consistently brightened the entertainment scene since the 1930s; and, when last heard from, they were still very definitely way out ahead of the field though unhappily obliged to function as a trio. The reduction in numbers had not audibly marred their standard of performance however. The fact that Bing and the Mills Brothers worked most delightfully together is clearly attested by such superb recorded examples of their combined talents as "Shine", "Dinah" and "My Honey's Lovin' Arms". I wish there were more where those titles came from! That Bing still shares our high regard for the Brothers was amply evident from his enthusiastic references to them as recently as the Cockermouth visit.

When writing my reviews of Crosby films seen on the TV screen for the last issue of this magazine I was faced with the somewhat daunting task of covering half-a-dozen items on a single page. For this reason the write-ups had to be of the well-known 'potted' variety. For this reason also, I had no alternative but to confine my comments on "BIRTH OF THE BLUES" to a mere 13 lines! An impossible situation, gentlemen, believe me. So without further ado I propose to amplify my jottings about this truly remarkable film, with its purely musical content foremost in my mind. As previously stated, I think just about every aspect of this movie is outstanding - direction, camera work, acting, story-line, dialogue, all seem to me absolutely first-rate. But more satisfying still than all these important elements is the superb soundtrack, a rich compendium of all that is finest and most durable in popular music. Bing addicts were abundantly catered for, the Crosby voice being heard frequently and in great form delivering a beautifully varied selection of tuneful numbers, of which "Melancholy Baby", "By the Light of the Silvery Moon" and his 'classic' duet with Mary Martin on the irresistible "Wait Till the Sun Shines, Nellie" may be singled out for special mention. (The ones I haven't listed may also be singled out for special mention!) I shall forbear from eulogizing once again about that wonderful soundtrack version of "Melancholy Baby", but it really was most affectingly sung by Bing to an accompaniment by muted trombone and guitar that was the very epitome of good taste. Indeed all the backings to Bing's songs were memorably provided by what was then (May-June 1941) Jack Teagarden's regular Orchestra. The full aggregation of 15 was heard to good effect from time to time, as requirements of the score dictated, but the musical accompaniment to almost all of the featured songs (and also the instrumental numbers performed by the 'Basin Street Hot Shots') were handled by a smaller group drawn from within the Orchestra. The men concerned were 'Pokey' Carriere (trumpet), Jack Teagarden (trombone), Danny Polo (clarinet), Ernie Hughes (piano), Perry Botkin (guitar), Arnold Fishkind (bass) and Paul Collins (drums). Of these, only Jack Teagarden and Perry Botkin were actually seen on screen, but jazz enthusiasts will readily understand why I consider it important that the names of these fine musicians

should be clearly noted here.

Speaking of jazz, having been a devotee of its best exponents for as long as I've been a Crosby enthusiast I am always particularly pleased to find others who are discerning enough to recognise and appreciate Bing's unique contributions in this field. Nobody who really knows his jazz (and is free of the petty prejudices that so often bedevil a sensible approach to this lively but fugitive art) could deny that Bing, especially in the 1930s, showed a complete and natural mastery of this fascinating idiom. For me, Bing, at his best, was quite definitely the most exciting and stylish white male jazz vocalist of them all - and I'm not overlooking Jack Teagarden's undeniable claim to a place in this colourful hierarchy. Whether scat singing, whistling or just plain noodling along, Bing's perfect sense of rhythm, his immaculate phrasing and a never-failing ability to improvise tastefully on a melodic line marked him out in any company as one of nature's pure jazzmen. (Use of the past tense seems appropriate here, because Bing hasn't essayed anything much along these lines for many a moon). "St. Louis Blues" and "Sweet Georgia Brown" contain excellent passages of the Crosby jazz style, and equally good things are to be found on "Someday, Sweetheart", "Moonburn", "Dinah", "Shine", "Young and Healthy". I have always been of the opinion, moreover, that Bing's great scat chorus on "Some of These Days" achieves such heights of construction, balance and sheer inventiveness that, had it been the recorded work of an instrumentalist, the chorus would long since have been hailed as one of the classic examples of jazz improvisation.

No TV revivals of Crosby films to talk about this time. Instead, the small screen afforded us the pleasure of witnessing the great man's characteristic and beautifully-timed arrival on the Eamonn Andrews Show last month when Bob Hope was the 'announced' guest star. Glances of the ubiquitous Mr. C. were subsequently caught via television at Epsom for the Derby (too bad Dominion Day didn't 'make it' for Bing's, Ireland's and all our sakes!) and at Ascot, on both occasions elegantly turned out in grey topper etc.

A week earlier on the Eamonn Andrews Show a moment of rare nostalgia occurred when Arthur Tracy ('The Street Singer') was introduced to viewers from his place in the studio audience. Here was a once very popular singer of the '30s and '40s (he was in fact one of the radio stars who appeared with Bing in Paramount's "THE BIG BROADCAST" in 1932) suddenly materialising after an absence of nearly thirty years and singing the first few bars of his famous signature-tune "Marta". A moment to remember indeed. Since that Sunday evening in June much has been happening in Arthur Tracy's professional career. As I write these lines he is appearing at the 'Empire' theatre in Liverpool for a week and has so far been received rapturously by highly enthusiastic audiences. A little surprisingly perhaps, Tracy's voice retains much of its quality, while his personality and stage-presence - plenty of real showmanship here - still exerts a very strong appeal. I feel sure that all ICC members and our friends in The 1930s Record Society will join me in wishing Arthur Tracy every possible success during his forthcoming tour of this country.

Has Jack Shaw found that match yet? I've been waiting for a light since April!

LES PHYTHIAN.

* BRITISH.....B.....MICHAEL *
* REPORT.....Y.....CRAMPTON *
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Dear Crosby friends,

Having just returned from a very pleasant and inspiring two day vacation at the home of Frank and Alma Murphy, I have to get something down on paper which will constitute my report for July.

Whilst at Frank's I had my yearly does of marathon Bing listening and had the opportunity on this occasion to listen to many sides from the early 30's period. Most sides I listened too are absent from my collection at present.

John Maughan, Angela, Michael, Janet and Linda Murphy were present to make my stay the more enjoyable - - - - - - - - But to work.....;

Issue number 6 saw some very enjoyable reading being presented and I enjoyed Les Phythian's summary's of the TV films. These will serve as a handy reference in years to come when we wish to look back for a brief outlining of these enjoyable showings. Fred Reynolds fired a few broadsides from his Birmingham home and whilst I agree with his plea for quality, I do not agree that the pages of BING should be used for levelling critisism of this kind. If Fred believes he can improve the quality and presentation of any feature, then he should offer his help direct to the person concerned. Personally. I would appreciate very much any help or guidence in helping me convey my thoughts into writing - Which brings me now to July -

Whenever I hear the name of Bing Crosby I find myself reminded of a wonderful book written by J B Priestly called Delight. In this book J B refers to those things in life, which, when seen or heard gave him the sensation of delight. For me, such is the delight whenever I hear Bing's name mentioned unexpectedly, or see reference to him in print. My local paper THE YORKSHIRE EVENING POST does not make a habit of refering in any way to the goings and comings of famous stars, and yet they do consider Bing to be news when he appears in this country. A few years they featured a long article on him entitled TACOMA BOY BECOMES AN INTERNATIONAL STAR, and recently we have had plenty of fishing shots. For this current visit of Bing I include two references;

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BING CROSBY'S CHANGED PLANS:
Bing Crosby yesterday changed his mind and decided not to travel to Leeds to play in the VARIETY CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN GOLF TOURNY at Moor Allerton, on Tuesday. Crosby, who was at Epsom on Tuesday and Wednesday, when horse in which he owns a share, DOMINION DAY, ran in the Derby, plans to leave for the Continent. The tournament has attracted many outstanding professional golfers and several leading stage personalities. (need I com ent)

LUCKY BING
Watching the £80,000 Irish Sweeps Derby at the Curragh tomorrow with Jacky Kennedy will be Bing Crosby - Bing, a horse enthusiast like Mrs Kennedy made £50,000 at this race last year when his horse MEADOW COURT won - "I wil be hear for a least w week" said Bing "and will visit some stud farms"

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Frank and John seemed to have just missed Bing's visit to Eire.

THOSE NEW ACE OF HEARTS RELEASES:
No reporter could fail to mention the glut of Ace of Hearts LP's we have just had by courtesy of Decca - BING SINGS FOR CHILDREN produced by Geoff Milne presents 12 songs slanted towards appealing to children, In my opinion this disc will have a wide appeal outside the normal Bing buying public, and financial returns should justify it's release. LITTLE SIR ECHO and LITTLE LADY MAKE BELIEVE, I now have in LP form and they sound supurb. START THE DAY RIGHT recorded by Bing, 22 June 1939 is a real gem, and on this record he achieves some of those wonderful tones which he only managed about 1935 to 1939.

cont on page 28

In June 1949 we had Bing demonstrating his narrating skill with his portrayal of THE LEGEND OF SLEEPY HOLLOW - this is re-pressed for our enjoyment on AH136.

Page 214 of that authentic book THE ROAD TO BING CROSBY lists 8 hymns which appeared originally as 78's and were recorded in 1949 - American Decca issued these in a faith series and coloured the labels purple. I did not have these titles until the issue of this LP, neither did I have the ST FRANCIS tracks, My very grateful thanks to Decca, and may we have more of these splendid issues. These LP's coupled with a few items I received from the States recently bring me nearer to the enviable position of having a near complete collection. Many items elude me though, but slowly I'm getting nearer - Money, purely and simply, has been the reason why I have not gotten a complete collection before now, although I appreciate that I will have to be content with some of the rarer items on tape. Recently I obtained from the States a mint copy of the Decca white label issue SILENT NIGHT, This record was a special issue and was made and distributed for the benefit of the St Columbian Missionary Society in 1935. Just think, a mint copy in 1967, this collecting game is just great. The record set me back 10 dollars but it is worth every nickle of it. Details of it are to be found on page 64 of The Road To Bing Crosby.

CLUB MEETING REPORT MAY 28th 1967

In my last report I expressed the view that the twice yearly meetings formed the highlight of the years Crosby events for most collectors. I attended the meeting at Franks in May and I am convinced further in this belief, Judging by the general air of contentment at the gathering.

May 28th saw me making the journey to Newcastle, for the first time in the luxury of my own car. Rain was with me until I reached Tynemouth, but here the sun shone and I enjoyed lunch by the sea-front - Frank and Alma live only a short drive from the coast and on arrival I was soon made to feel at home. John Maughan now arrived and the subject became normal - Seasoned visitors now arrived and I can see Tommy Mc Call, Ken Robinson and we all had a pleasent surprise in seeing Bill and Kathleen Bell, recently arrived home after a two year stay in Australia. I took this opportunity to get a message from Bill and Kathleen to convey to Keith Hyde who they had the good fortune to meet before they left Australia. This message is now on it's way Bill via the ICC tape which is at present in America.

Between conversation Frank played some enjoyable sides from the spate of recent Bing releases - ALOHA MEANS I LOVE YOU came up for playing first and this seemed to be the favourite from the Australian EP. For preference I choose THE MUSIC OF HOME - following "Aloha" we had some hymns from the new 12" LP and the quality of these seemed exceptional on Frank's large Wharfdale cross over unit. Jack Feather his wife and George and Rennie Smith of Keighly in Yorks had now arrived to exchange greetings and enjoy the Crosby chatter. A number of 78's were now being played and Alma announced tea from the kitchen. Jack and Leah Shaw now arrived and settled in with the rest of the guests. Jack gave me an interesting talk on fishes, some of those latin names escape me now, but the discussion was interesting.

An extract from the last round of TAPE CROSBY provided an amusing interlude when Frank played WHERE THE BLUE OF THE NIGHT played by Ralph Harding on the Jewish Harp - Bill Bell and myself found it so funny that I'm sure we laughed for at least 20 minutes non stop - With his usual magnaminity Frank had laid on a special treat for us and this time it was to be a film show:-

REMEMBER THE SCENE featured Bing in a scene from EAST SIDE OF HEAVEN also seen Eric Portman in a wartime sketch and another very great favourite of mine Deanna Durbin, as with Bing I have enjoyed Deanna's voice since I was a child but have only seen her on celluloid once. EASY STREET a Charlie Chaplin classic had many of the members in stitches and we saw a glimpse of the really great artist this man was. THE ROAD TO HOLLYWOOD seen for the first time by many of those present gave us Bing in the early days and singing some songs I had not heard him sing before. The plot was gay lighthearted and judging by the wealth of things that have been written about Bing's gaiety, typically him. Only the soundtrack left a little to be desired but without the

please turn to page 40

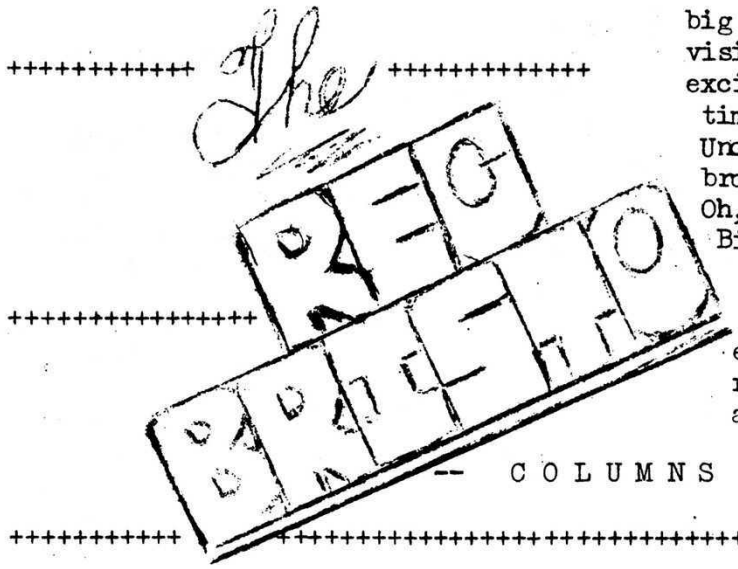
THE CROSBY COLLECTOR

By RALPH S.HARDING
(Editor & Publisher of THE CROSBY COLLECTOR magazine.)

So you are a member of THE INTERNATIONAL CROSBY CIRCLE and you read the Circle's magazine "BING". Fine! ... you couldn't belong to a better Society with a fine magazine that keeps you all in touch, united in the furtherance of the career of the greatest popular singer of all time, and wholly interested in all his many activities. But if you are not a reader of the sister magazine "THE CROSBY COLLECTOR" you haven't even scratched the surface!
This magazine, aptly called "THE MAGAZINE FOR THE DISCERNING ENTHUSIAST, COLLECTOR AND APPRECIATOR OF BING CROSBY" commences where all the other magazines finish, and brings you detailed news of records, films, activities and tit-bits of Crosbyana as and when they happen. The magazine has been issued regularly since the end of March, 1966 and at the time of writing, over 21 issues have been sent out, each issue reaching its reader approximately every three or four weeks.
What have we achieved in the last year? ...
Well, the magazine was entirely responsible for the issue of an L.P. by a major record company, an L.P. containing some of the rarest Bing recordings ever made, "Susianna", "Spell Of The Blues" etc. Apart from that, we have influenced other recording companies to issue deleted Bing records and re-issue records by popular demand. We have published and issue the finest BING CROSBY discography ever produced by a team of dedicated and expert discographers. This same team are now working on the finest book, devoted to Bing's films, ever produced. Copies of rare sheet music have been distributed free to ALL readers of the "Collector", various sheets of record data and information news sheets are sent out as a part of the "Collector" service. The magazine features up-to-date reviews of Bing's movies, whether they be the latest releases or "oldies" shown on T.V. Full TV coverage is given, records are reviewed and news given of impending releases with full details, several weeks before the actual discs appear in the retail shops. Full discographical details of all discs are given by a team of experts, and other subjects such as jazz, musicians' biographies, show-biz personalities, dance music and a hundred and one subjects are covered, particularly where they involved BING CROSBY or would be to interest Crosby appreciators.

The "CROSBY COLLECTOR" has been instrumental in bringing many blaise Bing collectors out of retirement and giving them a new lease of life on their Bing collecting activities. As one noted collector of many year's standing wrote, "The Crosby Collector" has been a shot in the arm to all of the older collectors of Bing. It has brought a new aspect to appreciating the art of Bing Crosby".
Tastefully and intelligently produced, the "Collector" features a series of especially designed and professionally printed covers that indicate from the onset that this magazine is produced to satisfy a particular and special need.
There is no Club or Society to join, no membership fees or the like. You merely subscribe to a magazine, delivered to you anywhere in the world POST FREE. Your queries will be answered, your "wants" supplied, if you are looking for a special Bing record or records or have spares for disposal this magazine will assist you.
If you are interested in 8 or 16 m.m. home movies, Bing or otherwise, unusual photos, unusual articles and features, contact with the top collectors and their unique knowledge, all over the world ... then *THE CROSBY COLLECTOR* is for YOU.
Most of the members of THE INTERNATIONAL CROSBY CIRCLE are subscribers to the "Collector" so why not you! You are really missing something.

ALL MEMBERS OF THE I.C.C. AND READERS OF "BING" may obtain a FREE copy of the latest issue of the thirty page issue 21, by sending a 6d stamp to ...
THE EDITOR, "CROSBY COLLECTOR", 'Crosbyana', 6, Castledine Road, Anerley, London, S.E.20. ENGLAND. There's no obligation to subscribe but I'll guarantee that you will, after you've read your first issue.
Subscriptions are modest ... 2/- per issue, 12/- for SIX ISSUES, Post Free.
So send a sixpenny stamp (to cover postage costs etc.) for your FREE copy NOW.



= A seventeen years old niece received an invitation to an engagement party in the big City - London. It was her first ever visit. She came back bubbling over with excitement. Yes, she had had a wonderful time - and the party? Terrific. "And Uncle," she said breathlessly, "a man brought a big pile of Bing Crosby records. Oh, it was great. Do you know, uncle, Bing is fab. - really!" Hmmmm.....

Still, it was nice to hear! She spent a happy half our going through the collection telling me just which albums and records had set the youthful party alight. A conquest has been made - ....and hope burns bright! I'll let her read my copy of BING, unless she insists on joining

At some risk, may I offer a few

++++ R A M B L I N G S ? +++++

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= I wonder what was the greater of two emotions engendered by Mr. Crosby's surprising and wholly delightful appearance in the Eamon Andrews Show - the extreme pleasure of those who saw it, or the intense chagrin of those who missed it? I must confess that Eamon's show is consistently like the curate's egg, and of course, depends entirely on the people he gets to "visit" him. So many third-rate comedians striving to put themselves over - at the expense mainly of other "guests" usually make me prefer a quiet pre-midnight hour of records rather than watch the sometimes embarrassing antics on this Sunday night show. Naturally, the billed appearance of Bob Hope was something not to be missed, not only for his own great talent - and the rarity of his appearances here - but also the certain knowledge that some new "digs" would be inserted at the expense of his long-time buddy, Bing.

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= And so it turned out: No, there were no small parts in Bob's film suitable for Bing, and he was over here in 1961 making a film with Bing somebody or other, some old fella. I was already thoroughly enjoying the show when came that shout of "Fore!" - and there, incredibly, was Bing! And did you notice he received his usual heart-warming welcome? Yet Bing seemed to be quite happy to confine his appearance to the "play-through" gag. Luckily, Eamon Andrews wasn't willing to let such a guest get away with that. Of course, plenty of newspaper publicity told us the reason for Bing's unexpected visit. According to one paper, Bing sang a bit of "Irish Eyes Are Smiling" at the pre-Derby Press Club luncheon.

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= No doubt, also, you saw that remarkable picture of Bing in the Epsom uniform of grey topper, morning coat, etc. I was irresistibly reminded of that age-old crack someone made about Bing's love of casual dress: "They tell me he's sewing lapels on his sweatshirt for formal wear!" I wonder what sort of effort it was for Mr. C. to climb into that Epsom "gear" - if I may use such a contemporary term? Pity the episode didn't have a happier ending for Bing - and the thousands of admirers who surely had a flutter on Dominion Way for old times' sake!

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= Although Bing's visit was so unexpected, I did have high hopes that I could perhaps join that select band which has achieved its ambition of saying "Hello" to Mr. Crosby. Thanks to an inspired tip, I knew where Bing was staying - and did, indeed, speak briefly to him on the telephone. That wasn't, however, my intention, for knowing Bing's visit was purely private, for a specific purpose, I felt it would be inexcusable to intrude. I merely wanted to ascertain from the hotel if Mr. C. was likely to be in the hotel for the next few days - and to my dazed and dry-mouthed consternation found myself actually addressing Bing. He was off next day, alas, to Spain.

= Bob Hope, incidentally, answered out little query of the last issue, regarding his birthplace. It was in fact, Eltham, in London, S.E. True he left at a very early age - when, as he recounts, he realised he could never get to be King! Well, he certainly became King of the quick-fire comedians

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= Decca Record Company has done us really proud in the way of reissues on Ace of Hearts - a very happy project for me apart from Bing. We owe them a big debt of gratitude especially for the issue of the Beloved Hymns album. All those, who for one reason or another, missed out on the 10" issued in 1954 or so - and I am one of them - have had probably their richest bonus so far in the whole album business, and I for one have addressed a letter of sincere thanks to them. This beautiful, moving, album was prompted by the continued advertisements, prominent in the CROSBY COLLECTOR, for example, of people so anxious to obtain it. The value is really fantastic, for to the eight hymns of the 10" album have been added those beautifully, reverently, arranged Prayers and Blessing. Was there ever such a voice as Bing's to impart such incredible sincerity - not to mention "caressing resonance" - in this material, so unusual for a popular singer? No doubt, with his faith, his voice, and his Father O'Malley "experience" he would say there was nothing (much) to it!

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= What is really disturbing regarding this issue, however, is the number of people who do not know of the album - but much worse, do not know that Bing Crosby had in fact recorded these beautiful hymns. I can appreciate it is a problem for publicity people, but really something should be done to spread the net wider for potential customers. I've even had firm Crosby collectors writing to me asking "Is it out yet - and what is the number?"

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= It is not, of course, an album one can slip on to the turntable at any time, appropriate times must be selected! But I feel even the irreligious cannot fail to be impressed with the reverence of the whole rendering. Indeed, a colleague of mine says it is worth 20/10d (the cost of Ace of Hearts) just to hear Bing sing that "Amen" following "Holy, Holy, Holy". This album goes a long way to offsetting the long-held opinion that the Devil had all the best tunes! There are now a round dozen of Crosby albums on Hearts well, 11½ to be precise. And, of course, one or two contributions by Bing to other albums, such as the Christmas one, and the Boys and Girls of Hollywood.

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= On the subject of indebtedness, may I offer my small tribute to the eminent team of Crosbyophiles who have compiled the remarkable Road to Bing Crosby opus? I am now the proud possessor of my first and only part of this truly prodigious publication. Anyone connected with even the smallest publication, can well imagine the interminable hours, the interminable discussions, the interminable letters, indeed, that were involved by this co-operation of 5 well-spread (geographically) devotees. The methods of compiling and presenting such a mass of information in cogent form - as it does - must have presented them with seeming insurmduntable difficulties. Happily, they have been surmounted. Alas, this Part 4 serves only to whet the appetites of late-comers and others. Is is too much to ask that Decca be emulated - and reissues contemplated so that we need not be held to ransome as it were. I would gladly offer my services in no matter what humble capacity, and quite "anonymously" if a reissue could be embarked upon. I feel sure that if I had The Road covering 1930-36, I could safely be marooned on a desert island with no other literature whatever - and not be one little whit bored. Aye, for a couple of years at that.

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= Its likely that all readers of BING know the team responsible, but to make sure, here they are: Messrs. Ralph S. Harding, Fred Reynolds, Bob Roberts, Leslie Pythian and Geoffrey Milne - the last-named of Decca, of course, and having a big hand in the aforementioned Ace of Hearts reissues of all kinds. The painstaking footnotes in the discography are eloquent tribute to the unshakeable aim of accuracy. Gentlemen: Thank you.

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= I received a letter a few weeks ago from a gentleman who lives in the town of Crosby - it wasn't on Bing matters but, inevitably perhaps, further correspondence showed that he was in fact a Bing fan. If any of our more dedicated members are contemplating to an appropriate town - and Crosby is intriguing, surely? - I can tell them something about this town, begging the pardon of Lancashire readers. It lies about seven miles from Liverpool, almost midway between that town and Southport. It has a present population of about 30,000 and is, I gather, a very pleasant residential area. It would be nice to know that it was indeed named in honour of Bing, but the truth is it is one of the oldest vill-

ages in the country, being named in fact in the Domesday Book as Crossbye - the village by the cross. If any of our readers are in Crosby reading this I apologise for teaching my grandmother, etc. But I didn't know this until recently - and it does have a great name, doesn't it. Convenient for Les Pythian perhaps - unless it takes him too far from Goodison Park!

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= Did I see somewhere, or did I dream it, that there was a possibility of Bing doing an album with the Tijuana Brass of Herb Alpert? I've read back in this magazine and its sister, The Collector, but cannot find the reference. I did come across a note whereby Bing informed Les Gaylor that he had done a "guest spot" in the Andy Williams Show in which they sang "Spanish Town" in Tijuana Brass style. I hope the possibility still exists, for the outcome could be breath-taking. It is many a long year since I was so sold, as they say, as I am on this unique instrumentation of Herb Alpert's. Those tastefully played, harmonious, trumpets with that peculiar Mexican/Spanish haunting air of gaiety and sadness - aye, at the same time! - is a joy to me. I suppose I am running true to form here, for I've several times mentioned my aversion to "driving" brass. I can never tire of this outfit playing numbers like "El Presidente" or "South of the Border". And if at times one is reminded of the sound of a brass band playing in the park - hearing it through the trees - on a summer evening, well that's okay with me, for I've had a lot of pleasure over the years from brass bands.

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= And what is more, Alpert has a guitarist who can make the electronic guitar sound like a musical instrument. The T.V. films we have seen of the Tijuana Brass have shewn that it looks as polished and accomplished as it sounds. Certainly a tie-up with Bing and Herb offers intriguing possibilities, and I hope they still exist. I only wish we here had produced something so impeccably musical as the Brass-idea instead of the "beat", now happily passing and leaving precious little mark, the saints be praised.

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= I've had a couple of letters which indicate that Bing, in his Christmas broadcast last year, caused a little confusion by naming "My Isle of Golden Dreams" as his best record. It has been pointed out that on the autobiography set he names "Stardust" as the greatest. But while both statements were made - and meant - there is an easy explanation. Bing considers "Golden Dreams" as the record on which he sang best, whereas the nominated "Stardust" as the greatest song ever written in the popular idiom, irrespective of how he himself sang it. It is easy for me to imagine that the Autobiography set was lapped up at the time of its issue, and probably everything that could be said about it has been said many times. So I suppose the error in it that intrigues me is "old hat" and long been assimilated. It refers to Bing's recordings of Cole Porter numbers - or rather the fact that he didn't up to 1944. Mr. C. said that Merle Oberon pointedout that he hadn't recorded any of this master tunesmith's songs and "a check of the files revealed this to be true" - hence"Begin the Beguine" and many others, 1944 onwards. Yet Bing did, of course, record "I Never Realised" in 1936. A very small point, perhaps, remembering that a large part of this linking commentary was done "off the cuff". Certainly Bing's neglect of Cole Porter was very plain to me - for I remember well in 1938-39 waiting for his recording of "Begin" which never materialised. I thought it then a wonderful song and settled for Chick Henderson singing it with the Joe Loss band of those days.

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= On May 2nd I had just made the first cup of tea of the day, and as usual, switched on for the 7.30 a.m. news. which was followed, rather startlingly for me, for I was thinking of other things, by the announcer giving Bing's birthday the honours. Inspired as one might expect by the indefatigable Les Gaylor, he gave us all, all Crosby admirers, and the I.C.C. a lengthy and detailed mention. It certainly came over great. Then followed the record of, perhaps, appropriately "Loveliest Night of the Year" from the "Happy Mood" album. My wife tells me that in the Housewives Choice programme an our or so later they played "Busy Doing Nothing". All very nice - but why oh why do these programme arrangers show such little imagination. Why couldn't we have had "Dancing Under the Stars", or "Singing Sands", or a thousand and one other beautiful tracks which never get an airing. Its as I said in the last issue, seems to me the B.B.C. needs some expert Crosby advice. I wasn't joking. The discographical team would be an automatic choice. Imagine a series of programmes such as: "Bing Sings Like This" No. 1. Love Songs. No. 2. Cowboy or Western Songs. No. 3. Jazz songs. No. 4. Hawaiian Songs and so on. I do know for a fact that B.B.C. features have been put over on the strength of privately-compiled tapes. The story of the Jack Hylton Band, is a good example. The B.B.C. like the idea, and assign a producer to collaborate with the instigators - and provide the commentator, or compere. I think the possibility is there

but, of course, I am hardly the one to take the initiative, aware as I am that there are Crosbyana experts who - and I make no bones about this - leave me standing in knowledge of Bing's prolific record output. But I can supply the idea, I hope!

"Buddies & Beaux" - as the album puts it!

The list of artists who have duetted with Bing Crosby, or collaborated in other ways, e.g. trios, chorus, &c. is a very lengthy one. There are not many Crosby-addicts who couldn't name say 30 at the drop of a titfer! So the following is a by no means comprehensive review - combined with a novel view from the past!

BING

AND THE DUET ------

but embracing trios, quartets, as well.

= It is with some amusement that I recall, so clearly, a youthful contemporary in the early 30's - an already dedicated Crosby-collector even though it meant sharing a record with three or four other people! - declaring with typical youthful brashness: "I like my Crosby neat". By which he meant he wasn't at all keen on a record that had been issued of Bing performing a duet, with whom I now forget. He would go on to say he "didn't approve of Bing making records with just another singer, and indeed, the less accompaniment the better, as far as he was concerned. I'm sure he would have settled for Eddie Lang only.

= He and his family moved away, as families tend to do at times, and I haven't seen him since those days. But I've often recalled his views on the duet - wondered how he got on during the years. Did he get reconciled to Bing "sharing" records. Did he maintain his interest to the Singalong Days for instance - and whether they gave him apoplexy. It is to be hoped that he modified his views, otherwise he has missed some tremendous records. We, as of today, endlessly discuss Bing's records as regards accompaniments, Bing's recording situation as regards the placing of the orchestra, etc. and other aspects of his records - but no-one, I think, comes out with statements detrimental to Bing performing with someone else.

= True, my 30's diehard did exempt the Mills Brothers from his otherwise adamant stand - I think it was "Shine" that permitted that. But he did point out, triumphantly, that this made a quintet and not a duet. So the way was open for him to let in the Boswells and the Andrews, no doubt, in due course.

= It is all part of Bing's unique talent and ability that something seems to rub off onto his companions on most of the memorable duets that have been achieved. No doubt his comfortable assurance, oozing "Everything's gonna be okay" was a tremendous asset.

That atmosphere certainly seems to pervade the duet and other records Bing has made - all it must be admitted, with eminent performers. There has been a wonderful rapporte between Bing and the Mills, Connee, Rosie, Louis, Johnny Mercer, Bob Hope and so on. And if his partner happened to have the "jazz" feel (Yes Indeed!) it inevitably produced a masterpiece of rhyhmic singing and phrasing, not to mention ad. libbing, which still stand as models to be copied, except of course, that the talent is so rare and not nearly so prolific as modern disc-jockeys would have us believe.

= With Bob Hope it resulted in top-class "vaudeville" duets, which nevertheless, lost nothing in swing, Bob himself being a master of timing - and the ad. lib. I feel "Road to Morocco" is the best in this field. And we all remember Bob's timing in his memorable record with Shirley Ross of his signature tune "Thanks for the Memory".

= The "rum-ti-tum" effort with Sir Cedric Hardwick and William Bendix had a happy rhythm and tremendous whimsical appeal. The two grand duets with the immortal Al Jolson came more into the "vaudeville" class, but were, and are, wonderful entertainment and illustrative of two masters at work.

= I myself don't know just how early Bing first duetted - after his Rhythm Boys days - but I imagine that "vocal refrain" efforts such as "Ho Hum", were among the first.

= If one poses the question: What is Bing's greatest duet? it would probably bring as many answers as What is Bing's finest record. An extremely difficult choice to make. I'm very fond of all the Connie (damn, never really got used to Connee) - "Basin St." "Yes Indeed", "Chestnut St", "Start The Day Right" - and a whole list of Rosie's. With Satchmo, of course, here again two supreme masters at work - although at times they combined the "jazz" and "vaudeville" categories in such as "Gone Fishin'" and some on the Bing & Satchmo album. Great stuff. Mention of Louis without "Now You Has Jazz" would put

me beyond the pale, I suppose, even though "Pops" only came in on a little of what was left! I mustn't leave out, either, that meaningful effort with Judy Garland, or the ultra-straight duets with Trudy Erwin. And also, the rhythmic trio of Mary Martin, the late-lamented Jack Teagarden and Bing in that well-received "Wait, Porter & Upstairs Maid" opus.

= For myself, the No. 1 duet must be Gallagher & Shean, or Mr. Mercer and Mr. Crosby. Its very amusing and highlyoriginal lyrics - telling a real story - its rhythmic bounce and incredible ad. libbing make it my favourite duet. Oddly enough, this is a "vaudeville" song in a very old tradition, and has been done in scores of fashions, but none has ever matched the terrific performance of Bing and Jack. Its astonishing to think, as one listens to it, that it was recorded almost 30 years ago - and listen to it often, I certainly do. Its a track I should hate to be without. And to really tie it up, for preference I prefer the "A" version.

= I wonder if readers would care to "come in" on this "favourite duet" business? If anyone has a favourite, and I'm certain they have, perhaps they would care to drop me a line - and most important, saying why. I would be delighted to present your ideas in a follow-up story. We should then, perhaps, arrive at what is, by common consent, the greatest record Bing has made in company with other artists, or artist. By all means interpret duet as meaning trios and quartets or what have you - except that say, the Ken Darby Singers or any other choir, should not be included. I shall look forward to your letters and comments. My address is in the front of the magazine - I think! On the other hand, if you share the views of my brash 30's companion, by all means say so.

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D O Y O U K N O W Y O U R L Y R I C S ?

= You know your Bing records pretty well. Of course you do - so you can say fairly quickly of which of Bing's records the following is the verse:

No: 1

"Day time is over, night time is here,
Church bells are ringing, mellow and clear.
I feel so lonely 'neath stars above,
Listening to one thing - the one thing I love...."

No: 2

"You always stir my imagination -
Sometimes it borders on fantasy.
And sometimes I find visions flash through my mind -
- Close to reality....."

= In case you can't place them - titles on page 39.

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T H E D A Y S T A R T E D H A P P I L Y ----------

= Quite unexpectedly, and from a most surprising quarter, I was offered a parcel of 20 or so Crosby 78's. Such days are red letter ones in a collector's calendar, as you well know. The generosity of the offer was in no way unappreciated when it turned out - as I feared, alas - that only one of the records proved to be an acquisition. But what a record it is. True, I've heard it scores of times - at least one side of it - but have it on no albums, and the 78 I bought of it disappeared some years ago. Bing with the Andrews Sisters singing the very famous "Have I Told You Lately That I Love You", and the lesser-known side, "Quicksilver". Both really delightful performances, and I must say"Quicksilver" came back to me as a real surprise - a bouncy, whimsical, song, full of all the good things that only Bing and his competent companions can put into a song. Sadly though, it was the day that the lamented death of Laverne of the memorable Sisters was announced, and it added particular poignancy to my unexpected acquisition. The Andrews Sisters, following their world-awakening success, suffered many vicissitudes of break and make up - and now they will no longer sing as a trio, but at least, their wonderful melodies will linger on through the medium of their millions of records. Thankfully, some of their finest efforts were with Bing. These records, in fact, are full of evidence that Bing really enjoyed working with these talented sisters.

= No, it wasn't a red letter day, after all....

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DR. MIZE!

= Since Editor Frank let me loose in these columns, whatever the demerits, or merits, of their contents, I can claim the dubious distinction that hitherto it has been my own work! Apart, that is, from the odd newspaper quote, etc. Now I have had the great good fortune to read, and not only read, but study this incredible work by the estimable Dr. Mize. My first thought was that I would use the knowledge thereby gained for readers of BING - then I realised I was 21 years late in reading this incredible book - fantastic, but true. So I abandoned the idea and considered I had saved myself from further gaucherie or indiscretion.
= However, I mentioned the idea in passing and it was pointed out to me that this book is very, very, scarce indeed - didn't a recently auctioned copy go for £5 or guineas? - that it was no longer in print and therefore is going to be scarcer still, and that by no means all of our readers and members are familiar with it. Furthermore, it is probably the finest detailed book ever written about Bing and too much cannot be said about it. So with the keen concurrence of Editor Frank, I have revised my plans - and decided to pass on to our readers some comments, extracts, etc. from this great book. If, alas, this should make the gen-men of Crosbyana turn over even more quickly, I am sorry.
= These leading exponents of Crosbyana have, of course, mainly had this book for many years. Indeed, hasn't the very name Dr. Mize, cryptically flitting across the pages of BING and its sister publication THE CROSBY COLLECTOR, often had you biting your nails in frustration? It has me! A remarkable book indeed! It is, I suppose, one of the few books whereby, as the author acknowledges, the foot-notes to the pages are lengthier than the text! This does not make for smooth and continuous absorption of the very detailed content and considerably more than one reading is required - but each reading is a rich experience.
= My first impression was that 1946 seemed an exceedingly early year in which to write such a Crosby opus. Yet if Bing really did first record in 1926 - something the book doesn't confirm or even mention - then 1946 was about half-way through Bing's career. I have the impression it was never published in this country - I saw no reference to an English publisher - and that no new editions were published, although it was probably reprinted a few times in America. A revision of it say every five or ten years, with a bringing up-to-date would have been invaluable.
= As you would expect also, the text of the book is highly "Americanese" - and contains some musical terms you are unlikely to have come across before. "Anacrus" is a good example, perhaps - it means "pick-up notes or note", e.g. the "Oh, give me a home.." from the first line of "Home on the Range" is Bing's anacrusis of that record. Fortunately Dr. Mize took cognisance of the fact that many laymen would probably read his book, and therefore, explained what some of these terms mean. It is quite likely that you are well aware of what not only "legato" means, but also the lesser-known "rubato". I was'nt quite sure about the latter, are you? For the record, therefore, because I will be quoting some of the detailed analyses the Dr. gave of certain of Bing's records, "legato" = in a smooth manner, as if the notes were all joined together, etc. whereas "rubato" = in modified or distorted rhythm. You knew that. Good!
Another great feature of the book is the profusion of illustrations of Bing, not only the well known ones such as from film roles, but also little-seen photographs from the Crosby family-album in the early days of this century. And in the frontispiece of the book there is an excellent colour picture of Bing and a composite montage showing four Bings at the same time, like a quartet, as it were.
= Naturally, the book contains a very detailed and enlightening account of Bing's rise, and it is most interesting for the reader to pinpoint the time at which he caught up with the emergence of Mr. Crosby. Looking back, I was very fortunate in being attracted to the dance-band world very early indeed on account of a young man living close by. He was a very talented "ear" pianist and could keep the whole street

spell-bound with his "syncopated" piano-playing as it was called in those days. I had an elder sister of whom, fortunately, he happened to be very fond - so in a way I was a friend. Later on, he ran a band, but because his "ear" pianistics were little use in that, he was the drummer. Actually, he taught himself to read drum-music and finished up in the West End. Long before that, however, I was "honoured" to be able to attach myself to the band as bag-carrier, tidier-up of music sheets, etc. I was 14 at the time. And of course, all the young "bloods" in this six-piecer as it was were full of the band-world jargon - and new gramophone records. Thus Paul Whiteman and his lesser (perhaps) contemporaries became very familiar to me very early on. For instance, I knew of Whiteman's "sensational" Rhythym Boys long before I knew that they includeda fellow destined to change the whole concept of popular singing. However, I am getting away from Dr. Mize.

= The book contains masses of fascinating detail and fact. For example again, Bing thinks his very first radio song was "Just One More Chance"; he was receiving 10,000 fan letters per week in 1934; there were no less than85 "Bing Crosby" fan clubs in existence at that time; that during the Second World War, the B.B.C. stated that two-thirds of all the thousands of requests they received were for Crosby records; Bing recorded the famous "Ballad for Americans" in four hours, whereas Paul Robeson (perhaps more nobly, says the book) took 3½ days. It contains some wonderful quotes: Kirtley Baskette, writing in "Modern Screen" in 1945, wrote: ="No living American is more widely popular or better known than Bing Crosby. He's a legend of two U.S. generations and asbasic element of 20th Century American culture whether you like it or not, but the chances are that you do." He then summarized Crosby's colossal career, his interminable triumphs, with these words: "The first star to write a million-dollar contract. The first to incorporate himself as big-business. The first crooner to win a Doctor of Music Degree from a University To raise a husky family of boys. To turn into a sports magnate on the side. To run a defense plant. To win a golf-championship. To cop an Academy Award. To set a style in singing that has been copied more than any other style in history. To have nothing but success - and still nothing but friends and worshippers, male and female, including even his hottest rivals. To roll on - and on - and still on - getting bigger, deeper, stronger, all the time - like Ol' Man River." This was undoubtedly a monumental eulogy - in 1945!

= Apropos of nothing in particular, it is nevertheless interesting that in an appendix the views of a dozen or so British jazz experts were quoted on the subject "Is Bing a jazz singer?" Without exception they all said yes, albeit with certain qualifications, the most quotable of which, to me, is "Yes - but not often enough!"

= The book tells us that Miss Boswell changed the spelling of her name from Connie to Connee in 1941. It didn't give the reason. It is a small point that has intrigued me for years.

= The beauty of this book, being so crammed full of interesting data, is that you can pick it up at any time and start reading again from any page. You will find, for instance, the remark that the astonishing fact is that Bing has never recorded the title song of "Anything Goes", or that distinguished ballad from the same show and the same pen, Cole Porter: "I Get a Kick Out of You". But once again, although these intriuging titbits are thrown in, no reason is given. It does tell us that Bing was first under contract to Paul Whiteman in 1926 - and that the first song he an Al Rinker featured with the Whiteman band, before the advent of Harry Barris, was "In A Little Spanish Town".

= The most interesting, apt, and I am certain, authentic comment quoted in the book, is that offered by John Scott Trotter to an orchestral colleague at the rehearsal of a new song for Bing (perhaps he said it to Buddy Cole): "Only play it through once - the second time he starts improvising!"

= The Second World War was, of course, not long over when this book appeared and much is made of what a link Bing's singing was to the men in the forces strung out across the Pacific and in Europe - and home. Indeed, it was considered inadvisable to feature Bing singing certain songs with a home-context - as the authorities feared mass-desertions!

= This book, incidentally, refers to the legend that has been discussed in these columns in recent issues, i.e. that Bing's voice can be heard every minute of the 24 hours of the day somewhere in the world - with the important addition of home turn-tables. If one does include that avenue then it is still possibly true today.

= Included is a discography of Bing's records curtailed of course by today's standards, for obviously it could only go up to 1945-46, and in truth is little more than a list of titles. Nothing so monumental as"The Road to..". And the book tells us that the contracts and licences and "lendings" whereby Bing's records were issued all over the world is a baffling and intriducate wilderness to try and pierce. But of all the rich content, perhaps the richest is the detailed analysis of a number of Bing's records. I shall have to leave

actual reproduction of some of these incredibly detailed analyses until next issue, but meanwhile, the following are the records selected for this microscopic treatment. Some of these records, e.g. Home on the Range, Where the Blue of the Night, Stardust and others, were recorded for more than once, but you do not have to be particularly well-versed on numbers, labels, takes, etc. as it is quite clear from the "inquest" text whether or not you are listening to the recording referred to:

1. Where the Blue of the Night - The Waltz You Saved For Me.
2. Home on the Range - The Last Round Up.
3. Stardust - Deep Purple.
4. Danny Boy - I'll Be Home For Christmas.
5. Home Sweet Home - Ava Maria.
6. Sweet Leilani - Blue Hawaii.
7. South America Take It Away - Route 66 (with the Andrews Sisters)
8. St. Louis Blues - (Duke Ellington - other side of this record was Creole Love Call)
9. Small Fry - Mr. Crosby and Mr. Mercer (Gallagher & Shean).
10. Basin St. Blues - Bob White (with Connee Boswell).
11. Louise - So The Bluebirds & The Blackbirds Got Together. (Rhythm Boys).
12. Some of These Days - Shine (with the Mills Brothers).
13. Day ByDay - Prove It By TheThings You Do. (with Mel Torme and the Meltones).
14. They Say Its Wonderful - These Foolish Things.
15. Just One More Chance - Now That You're Gone.
16. San Fernando Valley - Poinciana.

= It is plain that these records were chosen largely at random for this special treatmsnt, by which I mean that I don't think the author was selecting what he thought were Bing's best records at that time. Well, I must leave the subject of Dr. Mize now, but if the interest is there I shall be pleased to continue the subject next time.

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a million seller, and Lani provided the accompaniment, whereas on the other big record, Bing's own choice "Isle of Golden Dreams", brother Dick and his Harmony Hawaiians were the accompanying outfit. It was certainly "kept in the family", and no mean achievement.

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= While on the subject of Hawaii, in racing parlance, the "Drifting & Dreaming" album is a stable companion to the America-only "Blue Hawaii" album, and to take the vernacular one stage further, perhaps they provide a "dead-heat" in vintage appeal. True, "Drifting & Dreaming" isn't exclusively Hawaiian, and it covers a wider recording date span than "Blue Hawaii" in that it covers tracks made in 1937 and up to 1951. And for my money, its difficult to pick out any significant change in Bing's voice.

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= Despite not being entirely Hawaiian, the mood, accompaniments and "atmosphere" are very similar to its sister album. AND it also contains two of the songs so diligently analysed by you know whom! A terrific bonus is the fact that the aforementioned "Isle of" is also on the album. Incidentally, new and younger collectors, as well as those older ones I have noticed advertising for this album will be happy to know that the "Drifting" album has not been deleted and may be obtained fairly promptly from any good record shop, though it will have to be ordered, see Les Gaylor's list in the last BING.

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= Mr. C. also, was getting "some mighty fine tones" in 1951 as evidenced afresh by "Here Ends the Rainbow", even though the lady, with a nice voice, seems just a little strident compared with Bing's relaxed efforts. Betty Mullin, that is. Great, nostalgic, essentially "tuneful" songs one can listen to at any time, with small-unit but equally melodious accompaniments, not to mention the further bonus of some great guitar work from the one and only Les Paul. Come to think of it, Les has done quite a stint with Bing over the years - for an instrumentalist.

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= No doubt, if by some miracle I could suddenly join that small and select coterie of collectors owning a 100 per cent of Mr.C's records I would be highly delighted indeed. I don't want to be deceitful about this - yet one cannot help feeling that a lot of joy had gone from the pursuit - the bus has been caught, or the fox is dead. Imagine for instance, getting nothing except a new permutat- of tracks long held from all these Ace of Hearts issues? A lot of the joy would be gone. Take the new Bing Sings for Children it was worth all the duplications for me to get Bing's beautiful, sensitive, record of "Brahm's Lullaby". This never gets nominated as among his best - so far as I know! - yet it is sung in superlatively sympathetic style. Nor does "Getting Nowhere" get a lot of mention, yet on this track Bing's wonderful timbre was probably never better. A philosophical song, sung quite straight, yet a perfect gem of all that is Bing. And say what you will, these albums definitely refurbish the old 78's in some incredible fashion - or rather, the blessed engineers of Decca do.

> My raffle for the Young Bing E.P. was just as unsuccessful at the second time of asking, only six people showing interest. Nevertheless, I went through the drill, with the result that Miss (Mrs?) Eileen Knight will have had the record by the time BING is out - as soon as I get the ladies address from Editor Frank. I sincerely hope it is completely new to her. And thanks to those who did bother !

= "I ain't never heard no hoss sing!" So quoth Louis Armstrong when expressing some bewilderment at "folk singers". The record catalogues have long gone to great lengths to classify their products: Classical & Popular, Sacred, Jazz, Blues, and so on, and now the delineations are even finer. Rhythm & Blues, Teen-Beat, a real beauty - Tamala Motown, not to mention the latest - "Soul" forsooth! While Bing has sung in all these styles in supreme fashion, his records have never been so segregated in the catalogues. For instance, he has never been under the wondrous heading of "Jazz", and "Blues" - which sections, incidentally, house all sorts of caricatures of singers. His carols and hymns have not been listed under "Religious" records. No doubt "Bing Crosby" has with the companies, as with his admirers, just become synynymous with just about everything singable - except opera. And no-one is going to quarrel with that.

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= What prompted this? Well, as often happens I've found myself giving "Blue Prelude" many spins lately, and more and more I realise just what an incredible performance this was, not so much from the range point of view, but from the true "blues" half-note make-up of the melody.

= "Blue Prelude" seems to me to be an extremely "difficult" song to sing. Try a singalong with Bing if you don't agree - though I'm sure you do. Definitely a blues-extraordinaire! It seems incredible now that this masterpiece of a blues was once issued on a cheap label and sold in a chain store - Rex being the label. The price was either 1s. or 1s. 6d, I forget which - but it was a bargain comparable to getting "Beloved Hymns" for 20s. 10½d! One still sees that old record advertised for sale and no doubt, eagerly snapped up. "Home on the Range" was on the reverse side.

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= I know the very copy of it I bought in 34 - 35 is still in existence, for when I left the paternal home in 1939 I left my records behind - which may explain certain omissions of mine to my more astute readers. But only a couple of years ago I was visiting the family in the London suburbs and my sister's two stalwart boys of 17 - twins actually - came in as I was glancing through their stock of records. They joined in enthusiastically and showed me the usual teenagers crop of "beat" singles. There were a couple of standard albums, like "My Fair Lady" and "South Pacific" - and then the boys said "Uncle - look at this. Our dad says its the best record in the house!" And they produced that scractched grey, chipped Rex record I had bought so many years before - it had lain most of the War, and for quite a while afterwards, in an Anderson air-raid shelter.

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= My sister, their mother, was sitting knitting. "You won't amuse Uncle Reg by saying that," she reproved the lads - but of course, I laughed it off and said I hoped that they would still be saying such things about their records in 34 years' time. However, we played the record, and I'm afraid the sound matched its appearance - it didn't sound like the Der Bingle version! But it turned the conversation onto Bing, for my sister went on to say that her husband - not a devout Crosby fan such as us, but a fan, nevertheless, would not allow anyone to play the record - and was quite adamaant at clearing out times that that record must not be thrown away. She then got rather nostalgic saying "Do you remember how Bing used to sing the Old Ox Road and Please.....?" She remarked that she would love to hear "old Bing" singing like that again.

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= Next day whilst out shopping, I picked up the Realm "Crosby Classics" and took it back as a small present. I cannot describe her delight - and more importantly, her astonishment.

And thereby, it proves a point I am always making, that quite a lot of people who are not avid record collectors as such but would nevertheless by such wonderful, nostalgic, musical, albums - but they just don't know they are available. It may sound incredible - but it is true. Witness my sister: "I never dreamed you could get such a record today, though I must admit I never go near a record shop. I don't like the look of the long-haired youths and "mods" who are always hanging around them. I thought they only sold group records and classics." Her delight was so great - and needless to say, so was her husband's - that I followed up the Realm with a current Ace of Hearts. So they now have at least two Crosby albums that are jealously guarded. For I'm happy to say, thetwin boys, having heard Mr. C. on "modern" recordings, have been converted.

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= I have now achieved another "first" - I own, for the first time, a privately-produced record - the I.C.C. E.P. of Bing at the Hollywood Palace New Year Show. And I think it is just great. To hear Bing so "live" so recently, in volatile form, appropriately announced and with terrific audience reaction, is wonderful. Furthermore, the record is excellently produced - a fine, firm disc of first-class technical merit. Admittedly, the record was not made in a recording studio, and the orchestra is "pumped-up", and the chorus is too loud, but that is always the case in any T.V. spectacular. Despite that the numbers are good, especially "Cabaret" and the "Little Boy" ballad, whilst there is no doubting Bing thoroughly enjoyed the good old days. This record is undoubtedly a triumph for those behind its production - and **what** an answer to those who would have us believe Bing should have left the scene years ago. My appetite is whetted for the whispered Hollywood Palace album.

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= I think the B.B.C. owes it to the children of Britain to plug the ace of Hearts issued specially for them. I haven't heard a track yet. Which reminds me, I did keep a note of all the Bing "airings" I heard - to send to Peter Wilson - and lost it at the last moment. Sorry Peter, But I'm sure you heard 'em all, especially Bing and Rosie's "Mardi Gras".

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The verse lyrics on page 34 are:
1: Just An Echo (In the Valley)
2: A Man & His Dream.

= I am up to date with correspondence, I believe, but I do thank those nice people who drop me a line, whether they be the "hierarchy" -or the readers whose names rarely if ever appear in this columns. Cheerio for now.

MICHAEL CRAMPTON continues his BRITISH REPORT

effort of our Secretary we would perhaps have seen little of this aspect of Crosbyana With the film show concluded, time had run out for me. I shook hands with my friends and departed for Leeds. Another memory and happy occasion for recole tion - which signals my departure for this issue, will be back in October and hope tohave a club meeting news by this time.

If any member can help me to obtain a copy of LINGER A LITTLE LONGER IN THE TWILIGHT I would be most grateful.

till October....."Aloha" Michael.

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JOHN SCOTT TROTTER...
...NEW HONORARY MEMBER OF...
...THE INTERNATIONAL CROSBY CIRCLE

CALIFORNIA = USA = June 21 - 1967

Dear Frank,

Upon receipt of your letter, I phoned John Scott, who said he would be very honoured to be made an Honorary Member of the Circle. and he thanks you for the privilege.

signed - EDDIE RICE.

oOo

The above is a reproduction of an air mail postcard from our good friend in California Eddie Rice following our personal invite to Bing's long time M.D. the legendary John Scott Trotter - following early in the tracks of John's so very much appreciated personal message sent to Michael Crampton for his eventful meeting in Leeds, England in 1966 - We are very honoured to have such a close associate of Bing and his many records, now registered as an official member and we hope in due course to elaborate further on the marathon association between Bing and John Scott Trotter in subsequent issues of the magazine.

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THE GOLDEN YEARS July edition 1967 54 pages

Reg Bristo, a force to be reckoned with indeed in journalistic circles - the current issue of The Golden Years produced cover to cover by the now firmly entrenched Reg is a feast of nostalgia and reading refreshment, articles such as HYLTONNEWSSHEET by ALASDAIR FENTON...A LETTER FROM RAY NOBLE to KENITH TRODD, or I should say LES OVENDEN, Kenith can be found on page 43 talking about that British legend LEW STONE...THE INK SPOTS IN HI FI...THE ANDREWS SISTERS a delightful tribute from none other than CHARLIE TUPPER...PLUS dozens of wonderful items from places as far apart as SWITZERLAND and AUSTRALIA all tied up and presented in the style that we of "BING" have come to acknowledge.....You should invest 4/6 in this special issue which is available only from Frank Murphy .....

41 ALASDAIR FENTON presents;-----

CROSBY CLIPS==========CROSBY CLIPS

==========Number One==========

"AMERICANA"

That peculiarly American microphone art-form known as crooning is flinching under the vitrolic attack of Carninal O' Connell and a flood of nearly equally indignat letters to the press, topped off by an amusing musical gibe at the"public enemies" CROSBY, COLUMBO AND VALLEE', played by Victor Young's Brunswick Orchestra. Vallee himself enraged by Victor's giving one of his numbers to another orchestra, has failed to renew his contract, and is now playing for the reorganised Dunin Company's Hit of The Week records....

THE GRAMOPHONE MARCH 1932

"WHO ARE THE GOLDEN POP BOYS"?

Most serious students of popular music will know that ELVIS PRESLEY has more golden records than any other artists, and that BING CROSBY has sold more records than anybody else. The first disc to pass the One Million mark was DARDANELLA recorded by BEN SELVIN'S ORCHESTRA in 1919, and he recorded more titles than any other artist. Around 9,000 compared with BING CROSBY'S 2,700 odd. The Million Sellers league is given as ELVIS PRESLEY 50.. BEATLES 37.. FAT'S DOMINO and BING CROSBY 22.. But collective sales are a different matter - Now the league reads BING CROSBY 250 Million.. BEATLES 150.. ELVIS PRESLEY 115 and guess who's next ..... GUY LOMBARDO with 100 million. Best sales for albums go to the BEATLES at 14,000 - The biggest single sales of all time is..... yes, BING CROSBY'S WHITE CHRISTMAS at 25 million.

MELODY MAKER JUNE 4 1966

Surely the most unexpected of all vocal singles is Brunswick 059 on which BING CROSBY sings WHERE THE BLUE OF THE NIGHT and GOODNIGHT SWEETHEART - Nothing unusual in that, you say? Yes there is - these are transfers from the original 1931 recordings complete with Bing whistling, and behind him, solo bits of EDDIE LANG on guitar and TOMMY DORSEY on trombone, both alas long gone from us. I played them to a friend and his wife the other night and both agreed that CROSBY is the greatest light vocalist of all time. Neither were old enough to remember these songs the first time round.

THE GRAMOPHONE APRIL 1965

Talking of unusual radio hook up with other countries - Louis Levy said ...."A similar two way hook up was achieved a little later when from a London BBC studio I accompanied BING CROSBY. Wearing earphones I conducted my orchestra and accompanied Bing, who, over 4,000 miles away, crooned ONLY FOREVER, he might have been singing in the same studio, so clear was the relay ans so accurate the timing.

MARCH OF THE MOVIES - LOUIS LEVY

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WWW

END

WWW

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We're sure many members will have enjoyed these interesting snippets from Alasdair Fentons files - may we hope for a continuence of items for this self styled Crosby Clips and we extend our thanks to Mr F for his interesting contribution.

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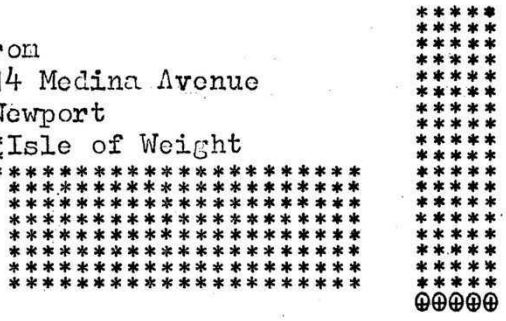
WHEN WRITING TO ANY OF THE CLUBS OFFICERS PLEASE ALWAYS EXTEND THE COURTESY OF A STAMPED, SELF ADDRESSED ENVELOPE.....MANY THANKS....

**** from
****114 Medina Avenue
*****Newport
******Isle of Weight



In This Issue Les discusses

THE FRED REYNOLDS ARTICLE
HIS MEETING WITH BING IN LONDON
A PERSONAL LETTER FROM BING
THE AUSTRALIAN EP RELEASE
LP' REVIEWS
THE DAILY MAIL BOOK OF GOLDEN DISCS
THE BING CROSBY OFFICE

Time has come around once again for the preperation of another issue of BING and I would once again like to thank those who helped to make the last issue a really worthwhile one. I really enjoyed reading it with the exception of the very dull piece submitted by Fred Reynolds - I like Crosby fans to play the 'white man' myself, and I can't stand sarcastic comments dished up with a frilly and sugary vocabulary to belittle others. I formed the opinion that Fred had run out of constructive material to write about and ended up 'scraping the Crosby barrel' and making a few digs at those who do their utmost to keep the journal going - So fear not contributers and submit all you can about the maestro irrespective of whether it's new or old material. We have members who do not know too much about Bing's past activities and we 'old timers' can even learn a lot from years ago.

I've a very great highlight to report this time - First I read one or two Newspaper reports about Bob Hope's arrival in Britain plus a mention that an unexpected visit from Bing Crosby was to be a reality - Noting that Bob Hope was to be on the Eamonn Andrews Show prompted me to look in and I really had a forethough that Bing would be invited as well. All fans here now know the result and how great it was when Bing walked on dressed in his golfing get-up and he really gave that golf ball a fair whack across the studio floor. Directly I heard the shout "Fore" I knew it was Bing and I'm sure many of you did as well. He looked great and was in good humour and everyone I have met who saw the show reckoned it was a real good show.

Seeing Bing on the shoe spurred me on to get to see him being as he was in London and I was lucky to get to see him twice in one week. The first meeting was on JUNE 6th at the CONNAUGHT HOTEL and I was blessed with a 30 minute meeting with the master. I was having a lenthy talk with a chauffer, a very fine young man who was engaged to drive an American business man and his family around town for one week in a Rolls Royce at £11 a day car hire and 2/6 per mile. The chauffer was telling me that on the previous day he had a nice chate with Bing for a good half hour outside the hotel as Bing was enjoying the sunshine. It was a Monday and as was stated on the TV show Bing and Bob Hope were due for a game of golf with Eamonn. The game was set for 3.pm and first of all Bob Hope came out followed by a hotel man carrying Bing's golf clubs and Bing was already outside talking the chauffer. Within no time the pair of them were skylarking in the road outside the hotel swinging golf clubs. Whilst I was listening to this interesting conversation a small Humber car drew up, the one Bing hired for his stay and in the rear seat I could see Bing sitting between a young girl of about 12 and a man My excitement was beginning to grow and as the maestro stepped out he spotted me and said "Hello Leslie". I walked towards him and he said "You're looking well, come inside". I duly followed Bing to a room just away from the foyer, he then called the waiter for drinks. Bing had a whisky and soda and I had a gin and orange, and large glasses at that. It was 5.45pm and Bing had just come in from the Epsom race meeting. We talked of a number of things, but as always after I've met Bing I wish I had asked him soand so..... It was terrific being in his prescence and Bing looked very well and certainly very brown. He may look a little old on television but this is not so seeing him in the flesh. The fact that he asked me to some lenth about the Isle of Wight and about Hovercraft pleased me very much. At 6.15 Bing said "Well I'll have to go now as I have a date at 7.00" We shook hands and I left.

On the following Friday, June 9th I decided to go up again on chance to try to see Bing. As on the first meeting I used up two floating days due to me., these are holiday days we can take at **any** time provided three days notice is given to the supervision - I was not able to do this as I had made my mind up to see Bing, so very quickly, but a very understanding foreman waived the rules for me to see Bing and I was able tohave the two paid holidays.

My second meeting with Bing was again for me very good. But I was only able to see him for minutes and time enough for him to autograph my LONGINES album release and one or two others - it was about 6.20 and Bing was in a rush, he was saying "I am very sory Leslie, but I can't stop. I got caught up in a traffic jam and I'm very late" - what pleased me more than anything else was Bing's request that I send him a copy of the RCA Australian EP release for his collection, He liked the fact that ALOHA MEANS I LOVE YOU and ASHMOLEAN had been released, as I showed him the record. I also liked the way LONGINES had presented their records. At 6.25 I left Bing, but even this meeting was great. I was even amused by the way he was giving instructions to his chauffer, a little man about Bing's age - Naturally I felt very proud to meet Bing and an partly indebted to Mike Nevard, the deputy features editor of THE SUN for tipping me off where Bing was staying - I would like to say that Bing had a laugh when I suggested he might consider making a Christmas single for us this year.

IT'S A GOOD DAY....IT'S A GOOD DAY::::::
It certainly was a good day when this Australian RCA EP was released, the complete titles are;

IT'S A GOOD DAY.....THE MUSIC OF HOME.....ALOHA MEANS I LOVE YOU
THE NEW ASHMOLEAN MARCHING SOCIETY AND STUDENTS CONSERVATORY BAND

This is a fine Bing EP and many thanks from me to my good friend in Australia KEITH HYDE for sending me over copies of this disc. For my comment on this record I'd like to say that THE MUSIC OF HOME and ALOHA are great Bing - both are beautifully recorded, a lovely balance between Bing's voice and the fine accompaniment - IT'S A GREAT DAY is great although a little short and ASHMOLEAN is the track I like the least - here we have too much orchestral covering of Bing's voice in places, and in any case on the up tempo numbers you don't get the real deep voiced and very masculine sounding Crosby tone as you do on the slower and ballad type material. - Take the fine Crosby phrasing og "the starlight" for example on ALOHA, this is supurb, You don't get this type of singing from Bing on numbers such as ASHMOLEAN, although it's great to have anything he records.....Yes a great EP, and Bing on seeing a copy agreed to accept a copy for his own collection, and he did'nt even know 2 tracks had never been released in the USA - so I've mailed him a record over.

THE LONGINES SYMPHONETTE SOCIETY
For me perhaps the most exciting information Bing gave me on June 6th was that directly he got back home he was to record 16 songs for the LONGINES people - He said the musical tracks were already done and that he was to dub over them - some of these musical tracks might even be on the 7 album set we already have, Bing was'nt quite sure, However they had found 16 musicaltracks which they considerd had a little too much orchestral sound on them and that they would lend themselves to a vocal from Bing - He agreed, he said, tosing over these tapes soon after his return home from Europe. I said the collectors would be glad to have this news, but Bing was'nt sure how they would be presented by LONINES.

L.P. REVIEWS.....L.P. REVIEWS::::::
Seeing the write up in the last issue of BING that ALLEN EVANS of the NEW MUSICAL EXPRESS said he would review any Crosby records, that is if he received them, brought me to mind about the HOLIDAY IN EUROPE LP when it was released here - My long time pen friend DEREK JOHNSON of THE NEW MUSICAL EXPRESS was the only journalist to attend the recording session of 4 of the songs in London in October 1960 - he wrote to me that after he had got the scoop for his own paper several staff journalists of other papers dissaproved of the fact that he never let them know of the session. Also when the album was released Derek had planned to wrote about the disc being

cont over

as he was the only journalist present and which would have been a great plug for the record - Derek finally wrote tome that as there was a refusal from DECCA to send him an album he was'nt proceeding with the original plan, so the record lost a first class plug. Incidentally Derek told me that the songs on the session were so n 'in the can' and in this order; C'EST SI BON UNDER PARIS SKIES MORGEN and MELANCHOLIE and they were eventually allocated the following Master Numbers at a later date 12775 12776 12777 12778. I had an interesting chate with Bing about this session at the hotel on June 6th and I could tell he enjoyed the session - he also said he recorded the other 8 songs in Hollywood some months later, which incidentally I already knew about.

THE COUNTRY GIRL.....film.
On Tuesday June 13 I viewed with some surprise the screening of this film on the ITV Network (Southern Television) Somehow I thought that Bing's Paramount films would have been on BBC - I note too that many of my friends did'nt go too much on this film, this I believe was because the songs were'nt too tuneful and not quite presented as they would have wished.

BING SINGS FOR CHILDREN
Some members may like to know that on the ACE OF HEARTS label a very recent release was made under the above title and featured 12 tracks - a great album indeed and due thanks to Decca for releasing it. I wish myself that they had used Bing's fine recording of THE GIRL WITH THE PIGTAILS IN HER HAIR and perhaps rested SWINGING ON A STAR - howver the point I want to mention here is that on the American Vocalion label obtainable from TRANSATLANTIC RECORD AGENCY , TARA STREET, DUBLIN, or the Australian Festival album there is 10 tracks - both the British or one of the other albums are well worth having and indeed the covers are different and well done. Here then are the titles;-

ACE OF HEARTS:

I WHISTLE A HAPPY TUNE
LITTLE SIR ECHO
TEDDY BEARS PICNIC
GUS EDWARDS MEDLEY
SWINGING ON A STAR
SWEET POTATO PIPER
SING A SONG OF SUNBEAMS
LITTLE LADY MAKE BELIEVE
START THE DAY RIGHT
GETTING NOWHERE
LULLABY
PENNIES FROM HEAVEN

VOCALIAN and FESTIVAL issue

THE TEDDY BEARS PICNIC
AREN'T YOU GLAD YOUR'E YOU
SMALL FRY
LULLABY LAND
SWINGING ON A STAR
THE HEADLESS HORSEMAN
ICHABOD
I WHISTLE A HAPPY TUNE
BRAHMS LULLABY
LITTLE SIR ECHO

The last recording on the British issue is not the one everyone is familiar with but a great recording featuring solo performances by LOUIS ARMSTRONG, FRANCES LANGFORD and BING, originally a 12" side;

BING'S BIRTHDAY
On May 2nd I was informed by countless people that I had a great plug on the BBC BREAKFAST SPECIAL for Bing's massive sales, two recordings were played but not the ones I required them to play - quite some mail came in to me from this broadcast and it was a pleasure to hear from some very keen fans - The previous evening I had another mention about Bing's birthday by BILL CROZIER on his MUSIC THROUGH MIDNIGHT - BBC programme, plus another great announcement on the Tuesday on RADIO 390's RECORD REQUESTS, whereby they stated previous to the playing of my request that "Now here is a very special birthday - Bing seemed quite pleased about the announcments and naturally I was delighted to note his reaction when I was telling him about the events.

THE DAILY MAIL BOOK OF GOLDEN DISCS 2nd edition
A fine note from Joseph Murrells to me states that he is well under way preparing

his second edition of this volume and he is waiting to hear from a USA publishing source. Mr Murrell's is anxious to include Bing's latest record sales and if anyone has any official data they could lend him he would be grateful. The 250 million sales figure he received was for the total up to JULY 1964, and incidentally when Bing received his platinum disc award in JUNE 1960 it was for sales which at that time totalled 200 Millions, of the four types of records, ie, L.P.'s, E.P.'s, 78's and 45's - Nowadays to give pop stars added status they are multiplying an LP record by 6 to create a figure equal to the singles equivalent - Mr Murrell's aims to give Bing an inproved write up in his second edition and I have requested him this time to give a mention to Bing being honoured as THE FIRST CITIZEN OF THE RECORDING INDUSTRY.

I'd like now to present a copy of a personal letter I recently received from Bing.

BING CROSBY HOLLYWOOD July 7. 1967

Dear Leslie,

Thanks for sending me the RCA record containing the new songs I had forgotten all about, and which you tell me have only been released in Australia recently. I played them, and you are quite right. They are rather good.

I've only been back a couple of days, but found everything in good order.

I enjoyed visiting with you at the Connaught Hotel.

Hope everything is going well for you over on the Island.

As ever,

Your friend,

signed Bing

BING CROSBY

ooOoo

POINTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.....
No I do not know the recording date of THE PEACE PRAYER OF ST FRANCIS and THE BLESSING OF ST FRANCIS - what I have from two official sources is that it was released in America on the 4th April 1955 (AM DECCA) One of the notes suggests that the tracks were possible recorded in October 1954 (CROSBY OFFICE say Nov 54)

Again I do not know why the title of MY HEART STILL HEARS THE MUSIC was used on the HOLIDAY IN EUROPE LP. I have the data that the original title was LETTERA A PINNOCHIO.

The tracks of OL' MAN RIVER and IN A LITTLE SPANISH TOWN were recorded on 23 Nov 1955 and the tapes purchased by AMERICAN DECCA on 13 Dec 1955 from CBS RADIO.

Yes, JOHN BARLEYCORN and WHEN YOU'RE IN LOVE - Master No's L8895 and L 8896 were recorded on 27 Dec 1955 (HIGH TOR L.P.) Notes ffrom U.SA. suggests the other Bing tracks were probably done at other dates either in Nov or Dec 1955 by CBS TV

I have recently obtained the album A CHRISTMAS SING WITH BING (someone wrote they could'nt get it) This was transcribed from a Christmas show - 1955 over American Radio but was previously recorded at some other date.

A song or two I'd like Bing to record of newer songs - well - THE GOOD LIFE and WHEN SONNY GETS BLUE would be two of them.

more from Mr G on page 46

continuing THE LESLIE GAYLOR COLUMNS

No, the LONGINES SYMPHONETTE SOCIETY Bing tracks, 16 in all were not recorded by MGM Records - Yes, Bing dubbed over the exsisting musical tracks in two sessions Nov 30 and Dec 2 - 1965 - 8 songs each session for the released discs.

To BOB ROBERTS, glad you met the maestro, and to REG BRISTO and FRANK MURPHY, congrats on your telephone chats with Bing - Thankyou New Member Mr I D Bell for your interesting letters and the great work you have done for Bing on ALL INDIA RADIO, Asian and South East Asaia Networks and on RADIO CEYLON.

I too agree that American Decca engineers have completely messed up the great old tracks of IT'S EASY TOO REMEMBER and JUNE IN JANUARY on THE BEST OF BING 2 album set - far too much echo. These days are supposed to be days of supposed Hi Fi but a lot of the old time engineers made a better job with lessor equipment;

THE BING CROSBY OFFICE ======HERE A A FEW FACTS RELATING TO BING'S HOLLYWOOD HQ There are some 15 people employed at the office to handle Bing's af airs, mainly of business interest these days - this number includes the Secretaries. Bing's brother LARRY has the business of running the office with a skillful negotiator in more ways than one, namely the Executive Vice President MR BASIL F GRILLO. The classy looking and finely typed blue printed type letters come under three paper headings of (I) BING CROSBY (2) BING CROSBY PRODUCTIONS)(and (3) BING CROSBY ENTERPRISES I do not know how many people are employed on any TV films or shows that are made for sale to American TV at the moment, but in 1963 and later 140 people were on Bing's payroll for the production of 2 TV shows, BEN CASEY and BREAKING POINT - A third TV show was being started at the time - THE SPY and another 70 employees were to be taken on. It costs Bing's office about 3oo,000 Dollars to make a television 'Pilot' show of one hours duration from which they hope to sell the series. This TV production in America is a tremendous challenge financially and they did muffle a couple of 'Pilot' shows.
This information was supplied to me by LARRY CROSBY who says that "Bing the boss" is getting plenty of golf practice in and all at the office are busy.

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Well friends time has come once again to close, and I hope you like what I have done for this issue although it may appear to be rushed as I am very busy just now with other things - Thank you all for your letters and once again may I say that I am stillreeling with great satisfaction of meeting the GREATEST OF THEM ALL - he's a very fine man when your in his company. .....L.G.

++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++8++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++

THE ADDRESS=81 Union Street
Middlesbrough
Yorks
England

THE CORRESPONDENT=Peter Wilson

THE ARTICLE=PETE'S DIARY

July is here and time for another edition of BING. No doubt the July edition will contain a report of the surprise visit by Bing to England, and and even greater surprise, his appearance on TV - I looked forward to seeing BOB HOPE on Eamnon Andrews Show on Sunday June 4th, like everybody else I knew he'd have something to say about Bing (or against him) and he did'nt let us down. I was sat in my favourite armchair at ease watching the show when suddenly a voice backstage shouted out "Fore" and onto the stage walked the one and only Bing in person - I shot out of my chair and turned the sound up. I could'nt believe my eyes. Bing over in England without anybody knowing of his visit. Bing had come over for the Derby and he looked extremely fit and sun tanned, but relaxed as ever - It did'nt take long for him and Bob to make this the best show I have ever seen.

Another highlight for Bing fans came at approx 3pm on Wednesday June 7th before the start of the DERBY. Bing was on BBC I TV being interviewed about his horse DOMINION DAY. He was asked if he would sing if his horse won. He replied "That would be a pleasure". The interviewer asked him to sing a few bars there and then and Bing obliged with the last verse of THE HORSE TOLD ME - Unfortunately the horse is still running.

Last Thursday June 22 was my wedding anniversary so I wrote to the BBC requesting TRUE LOVE - I'm still waiting.

In the last issue of BING I noticed a list of LP's compiled by LESLIE GAYLOR, in the list is an LP I've always wanted entitled JOIN BING AND SING ALONG W1363 - if Leslie or any other member has a copy to spare I'd willinghly buy it.

On the morning of May 2nd (Bing's birthday) the announcer on the radio programme BBC BREAKFAST SPECIAL mentioned Bing's great record sales of 250,000,000 and ended his tribute to Bing by playing BUSY DOING NOTHING. On the morning of May 26 the same announcer said he had received a letter from a Bing fan thanking him for paying tribute to Bing's great sale of records but he (the wroter) thought a better record could have been chosen - so the compere played his own Bing favourite MC NAMARA'S BAND - I wonder of the writer was a club member. AND NOW TO MY DIARY

MAY 30	MISSISSIPPI MUD.....	BBC RADIO
APR 2	film THE BIRTH OF THE BLUES.....	BBC TV-I
	film MY FAVOURITE BRUNETTE (Bing guest shot.....	BBC TV-I
" 5	NOW YOU HAS JAZZ.....	BBC RADIO
" 8	FANCY MEETING YOU HERE.....	"
" 10	HIGH SOCIETY songs selection (incl all Bing's....	BBC RADIO
" 12	WELL DID YOU EVAH.....	"
" 20	TRUE LOVE.....	"
MAY 2	BUSY DOING NOTHIN'.....	"
21	BUSY DOING NOTHIN'.....	"
" 26	MC NAMARA'S BAND.....	"
JUNE 4	EAMON ANDREWS SHOW - Bing guest (Live)	ITV
7	DERBY DAY - Bing interviewed on the course.....	BBC TV-I
" 20	GIRL OF MY DREAMS.....	BBC RADIO
" 24	SWINGING ON A STAR.....	"
" 29	KNEES UP MOTH'BROWN.....	"

You'll notice I've left off the programme title and compere's name to spare space - and that members is it for this issue, I'll be back in the next issue to bring you up to date on other items played after June 29 - and uhtil then best wishes to you all.....PETER WILSON

OUR HOLIDAY TRIP

BY Frank Murphy

IRELAND MOTHER IRELAND

Personal meetings with.....
JOHNNY AND MARGARET JONES.....
GEORGE O REILLY
MAUREEN FIELDS
JACK OSBORNE
LINDA OSBORNE
RAYMOND MC CORMACK

Tuesday July 11 to Tuesday July 18 1967 - the days between will live long in the memory of myself and my pal John Maughan - This was John's second visit to the Emerald Isles - my first and everything I had heard about dear old Ireland was to become a reality on this short visit - I kept some notes of the events, but you will I'm sure forgiwe my

cont page 48

inability to transfer to these pages the true measure of the success of this memorable trip - I will try to give as correct an impression as I possibly can.

TUESDAY JULY 11th.
Arrived at Dublin Airport 5.25 and made our way to Dunluce Rd in the Clontarf area, 3 miles out of Dublin - a beautiful place and as John and I discovered, the air was good for singing - after a meal we had our first sample of Irish artistry and our first night out was to be a memorable one as we attended an Irish Cabaret at CLONTARF CASTLE - we joined up with two other English visitors and were later joined also by two American visitors and their Irish courier - Bing naturally came into the conversation and these American visitors from Massechusetts told us that when Bing hosted the HOLLYWOOD PALACE, it was always an especially great show. The Irish Courier told us he was very impressed when he learned that Bing had left the Irish Derby before the arrival of Jacqueline Kennedy, in order not to detract attention from the Ex Presidents wife - On the excellent Irish cabaret was that great figure of Irish music MARTIN CROSBY who displayed a delightful tenor voice - this evening was a truly wonderful start to our holiday.
WEDNESDAY JULY 12.
An amusing experience on our way to visit the GUINNESS BREWERY. We asked an old man the way and he kindly offered the accompany us there. John asked him if he knew if Bing was still in Ireland - we were both startled by his reply "I don't know" he said "And I don't care either - I don't hold with these crooners - they are all a lot of gangsters" - - - boy oh boy - we hastened to correct such an impression, at least in Bing's case and I think we did manage to redeem the Crosby image. We enjoyed the tour of Guinness, especially the last part and the samply room - a must for all thirsty visitors. We spent the rest of the day visiting record stores and Dublin proved to be a fairly good place for Bing albums, and certainly no worse than our major Newcastle stores - John picked up a copy of the 10" album DOWN MEMORY LANE Vol 1 for 10/- a bargain indeed.
THURSDAY JULY 13.
Visited HOWTH - beautiful spot, and climbed HOWTH HILL, 560 ft (phew) nice pub at the top though, aply titled THE SUMMIT, grabbed our Guinness and hastened to the tables outside the pub as our pet joint hate, Anthony Newley appeared on the pub radio - met some other Wallsend visitors here, it's a small world - had a nice meal at the pub.
FRIDAY JULY 14
Visited ancient church of ST MICHAN'S in Church Str, vaults containing bodies in a remarkable state of preservation after hundreds of years - both John and I decided this was definately not a place to spend a dark night in - In the afternoon we had a pleasure cruise of Dublin coastline - two and a half hours in a rocky boat proved too much for yours truly, could'nt see what colour I went, but can tell you I felt pretty bad - I was glad when we hopped off that boat
SATURDAY JULY 15
Travelled to BELFAST where a truly 'royal welcome awaited us - at the station were Johnny and Margaret Jones, Jack Osborne with his great little daughter, Bing fan Linda, and also Raymond Mc Cormack - Linda presented me with a copy of the IRISH NEWS and BELFAST MORNING NEWS - Jack had arranged a great plug which read as follows;

MR FRANK MURPHY (England)
secretary of The International
Crosby Circle arrives in
Belfast this morning from
Dublin where he has been in
consultation with impressario
George O' Reilly who organised
the St Patrick's Day "Bing
Crosby Show" Mr Murphy will be
met by one of the Northern
Ireland members of the Circle
Mr Jack Osborne.

This was a terrific piece of publicity Jackand George was delighted with the copy I gave him later. Raymond took us to coffee and we had a delightfully informal chat afer which we did a tour of a famous market spot and later enjoyed a very nice meal at MOONEY'S Hotel - as with most great events, the day passed all too quickly, but I could'nt let this opportunity slip by without saying to our boys in Northern Ireland - thanks a lot for your wonderful hospitality and obvious ethuusiasm for the ICC - the firm bond of friendship tied before this meeting was made even more secure as a result of it, and letters and tapes exchanged since the meeting serve to prove just how great our club is .

SUNDAY 16.

Mass at a beautiful little Church in Killester, after which John joined me and we travelled to CROKE PARK in FAIRVIEW for the Hurling finals - WEXFORD V KILKENNIE boy this is a game and a half - if you thing Rugby is rough get a load of this game sometime - it's great - Sunday Night went to the METROPOLE in O' Connell Str the film was THE FIGHTING PRINCE OF DONEGAL - we sat very quietly like good Irishmen as the audience boo-ed the British - it was unique to see a film of this kind in such an original setting, and it was especially worth noting that when the film ended NO-ONE LEFT until the National anthem of EIRE had been played out fully - stampeding British audiences as the Queen is played could take a lesson in courtesy here.

MONDAY JULY 17

Last minute shopping in Dublin and at 5pm we arrived at the Pearse Str office of George O' Reilly - a very busy spot indeed, George and his staff could use two heads at times and George told us 'this is one of our quieter periods - heavens. It was go d to meet Maureen Fields for the first time and after intruductions we left the office with George for a meal at a sea food spot which had the recons of our host - after a delightful meal we spent the night touring the Dublin night spots, highlight's being a visit to the GREEN ISLE Hotel and finishing off in the early hours at THE EMBANKMENT where over chicken and chips we were entertained with a selection of Irish rebel songs which John and I wisely applauded with great enthusiasm - George was a wonderful host and spared no expense to see that John and I had all we needed to make this a wonderful closure to our visit to Ireland -

TUESDAY JULY 18

Our memorable trip was closing now and we spent the morning having a last look at Dublin city - we bought a couple of records as souvenirs, I bought THE RAMBLERS MUISHIN DURKIN, which was a big favourite on the juke boxes there, and we both bought WE'RE OFF TO DUBLIN IN THE GREEN a great record by DERMOT O' BRIEN and the Clubmen , whichyou will remember were a terific hit on A LITTLE BIT OF IRISH. George had laid on a chauffer driven car to take us to the airport for our take off at 5,50, and we arrived back at the Pearse Str office at 4pm, where after tea and a final chat with George and members of his staff we said our goodbyes - George O' Reilly had put the cream topping on a memorable visit to Ireland - John joining me in saying a sincere thankyou - at 5.55 our BKS 4 engined plane took off for England - travelling at 17,000 ft at 370 mph we were home in Newcastle 50 minutes later - an event we had looked forward too for so long - now over, but a host of wonderful memorieswill ensure that John and I will never forget.IRELAND.MOTHER.IRELAND

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from the DON WOOLLAND files

TIME MAGAZINE..31.March.1967

SAM'S SHOW

Each Sunday night from 7.30 on the vast Los Angeles area, the mayer of the city SAM YORTY stars in his own TV show. 90 minutes long, in color and with a theme song groaned by BING CROSBY, Yorty's show in which he banters with personalities, show biz and otherwise is a huge success - So far the ratings have put it ahead of such old favourites as PERRY MASON and TRUTH AND CONSEQUENCES.

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Via Don we shall shortly be receiving from ERIK HARRISON in Oslo a review from the Norwegion press of Bing's BING IN PARIS album

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.....JOHN MAUGHAN'S.....

DAILY MAIL - June 21 - 67

.....But even if there weren't many show stoppers, there were very few shockers too. My verdict on this years Ascot; No surprises, no novelties, but the general standard far higher than usual. And my big moment of the day; Bing Crosby himself, enviably tanned, with a pipe clenched between his teeth looking not a day older than 60.....Judy Innes.

DAILY EXPRESS - July 26th-67

.....most Indians live in humiliating poverty, but in Palm Springs, California - perhaps the richest per capita income resort in the world - The AGUA CALIENTE Indians own every other section of the 30,000 acres of desert - Their neighbors are GENERAL EISENHOWER, BING CROSBY, FRANK SINATRA, GROUCHO MARX, LUCILLE BALL and many others. Each of the 131 members of the tribe is worth - at least - 1 million dollars (£357,000)

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PRESS CUTTINGS OF BING EVENTS AND VISITS IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD ARE ALWAYS URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR THE PAGES OF THIS MAGAZINE PLEASE ALWAYS CUT THESE OUT AND SEND THEM TO THE EDITOR FOR SELECTION

.....PRESS CLIPPINGS.....

NORTH MAIL - June 14th.67

Tyne Tee's uneasy translation of the hardy steam radio radio programme DOWN YOUR WAY to the small screen - THIS IS YOUR TOWN, visited BRANCEPETH VILLAGE Interspersed among the local characters were WHISTLING JACK SMITH and BING CROSBY.

nb - the record of Bing played as a request was STRAIGHT DOWN THE MIDDLE - this record was loaned to Tyne Tees TV from Frank Murphy's personal collection for a generous fee of £3.3-0

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SUNDAY SUN - THE TV CRITICS

...never have I enjoyed a show as much as the Hope and Crosby Show last Sunday. Derek Nimmo was refreshingly funny, even - even down to his tootsies

David Pritchard - Leeds.

NORTH MAIL 9-May-67

ELDEST ANDREWS SISTER DIES
The eldest of the singing Andrews Sisters, Laverne Andrews died in Los Angeles yesterday after a long illness - she was 54. Laverne, Maxine and Patty sold more than 80,000,000 records after making their debut in 1929 They also appeared in many films.

DAILY MAIL June 21 - 67

BING CROSBY was at Ascot yesterday, looking very suntanned. "Ive flown over specially from Spain" he told me "I'll be here for three days"

DAILY MAIL July 1 - 67

NOEL MURLESS and George Moore can win their fourth classic of the season, the Irish Sweeps Derby, with Lady Sassoon's Sucaryl today. Irish crowds are normaly limited, but the presence of Mrs Jacky Kennedy and Bing Crosby in fine weather at the Curragh should attract a record attendence for the sixth running of this supurbly organised event.

51 LINDA OSBORNE tells us about THE DAY I MET BING

Here I was speeding along in a big shining car on my way to the airport. Yes, I was going to meet Bing Crosby The plane came in, ever so slowly and then the gangway was pulled into place, the aircraft door opened and the first person out was Bing himself. He walked down the gangway and when he saw me he came over and shook hands with me. He started signing autographs and about 10 minutes afterwards he left the airport with me. We went to my home and the family were all so excited, it was so wonderful. During lunch Bing spoke about Ireland. He said it was a country he loved to visit. After lunch we had anenjoyable chat and after that Bing and I went sightseeing. Bing had just agrred to sing me a verse of SWINGING ON A STAR when I heard my mother calling me to run an errand .....

AH WELL .....it was a beautiful daydream.....

**********our thanks to Linda (just 9 years old) for this delightful contribution - we hope when Bing returns to Ireland in the near future, your Daddy will take you to see Bing and make all your dreams come true.....

NEWCASTLE EVENING CHRONICLE July 1st - 1967

FANFARE by DOUGLAS ENEFER

Yet another cruise down Memory Lane and nowhere is it likely to be more welcomed than on Tynside. The indefatigable Decca Record Company have just put out an Ace of Hearts album under the style of "POP'S REMEMBERS-PAUL WHITEMAN AND HIS ORCHESTRA. Actually the music presented in this LP is a re-creation of the now legendary epoch when Whiteman straddled the dance music scene like a Colossus.

It was the jazz crazy era of the Charleston, raco n coats, prohibition speakeasies, hip flasks, young men driving Stutz Bearcat automobiles, short skirts (yes they had them way back) Al Capone lording it in Chicago and Bertie Wo ster strolling down Park Lane.

Whiteman, b rn in Denver, Colorado all of 77 years ago got into music as first viola player with the Denver Symphony. He switched to dance music almost by accident - and almost overnight soar ed to the sum it of success.

Why? The answer has less to do with his undoubted musicianship than with his innate understanding of what a war-weary public wanted and his flair for providing it.

FOUND TALENT

What he in fact provided was the first large scale commercial dance orchestra But there was more to it than that. Whiteman had a positive genius for unearthing talent which itself had the stardust magic of genius. As a result nearly all the most brilliant jazz musicians of the period were at one time or another to be found in his massive entourage - Consider the names - BIX BEIDERBECKE, EDDIE LANG, JOE VENUTI, FRANKIE TRUMBAUER, TOMMY AND JIMMY DORSEY, RED NICHOLS, to name names at random, And, on the vocal side none other than BING CROSBY- whose appearance with the band as one of the RHYTHM BOYS TRIO was his first step on the high road to global success. Whitemans's band was the first to play from elaborate orchestrations, the first to use full brass and reed sections, the first to play on a concert platform. the first to play on vaudeville, and th e first to be starred in a Hollywood musical - The film was called THE KING OF JAZZ. ..after the band's leader. It was a memorable movie - even though the title was never valid for the portly Paul was not a 'king of jazz' the true monarchs were men like Lang and Venuti, Jack Teagarden, Louis Armstrong, Bix, Bechet, Morton, etc

CONCERT JAZZ

He was the first to launch out into concert jazz - in an attempt to bridge the gap between jazz and legitimate music

cont on page 52

DOUGLAS ENEFER continues FANFARE:

What he actually did was commision George Gershwin to write a score. This turned out to be the over acclaimed RHAPSODY IN BLUE - an agreeable piece of music though it was neither a rhapsody nor a blues. The old opus was performed in the Aeolian Hall, New York, with the idea of making a 'lady out of jazz',. Forty yeats later earnest fellows still think this can be done. Their efforts have been no more successful than those of 'Pop's' Whiteman on that long gone night in 1924. But Whiteman did have a wonderful if often over elaborate dance orchestra, bursting with new ideas and powerfully reinforced by superb jazz musicianship, evenif it rarely got the chance to show its full potential. Above all, Paul Whiteman and his Orchestra symbolised a whole era - a unique period still fondly remembered by millions of people who were kids at the time.

For them, "POPS REMEMBERS" is an album shot full of memories. But why not another using the actual historic 78 rpm tracks straight from the fabulous period itself.

..... Now there's a thought .....

CROSBY SHOPPE

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JOHN MEID, 3503 Cummings Lane, Chevy Chase, Md, 20015, USA - offers a number of US Decca titles for offer - nothing really rare in the list to hand and regret pressure of space in this holiday torn issue of BING does not permit full detail but British Isle members can have an anvance look at the list by writing to the Editor - overseas members please contact John direct -

BOB ROBERTS offers a fully comprehensive tape service of Bing radio and tv dates a full listing is available direct from Bob --- Highly recommended.

BINGPICS - Order direct from John Maughan;- ORDER PHOTO SET No 55

Members please note the following souvenir set will not be available until IO days from the closing date for orders, which is NOVEMBER 1st - this extended order list is to enable all members to have an opportunity to order - The set comprises of 17 mat finish photos size 10 X 8 and appears in the BINGPIC files by courtesy of GEORGE O' REILLY - details of the set as follows - members please note that the set is not available (at this time) singly - total price for the full set is 54/- (8 Dollars) All orders must be pre-paid by the closing date -

ICC releases-have been suspended for this issue due to our overloaded schedule - but material is in hand for the next issue as indicated in the last issue - see October supplementary sheet.

Members ever on the hunt for those elusive and getting harder to get 78's will be pleased to learn that further items have now come into the ICC RECORD BANK incl some rare original Decca 78 rpm sets in their original presentation packs - these together with at least 200 other items are scheduled for Octobers special listings

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AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT to SAMUEL STERNBERG

Your editor wants to take this last few lines on page 52 to extend on behalf of the club a few words of deep gratitude for a very kind thought in sending along as a giff to our CROSBY ROOM a beautiful hand needle work, originally an idea by Sam's wife Nizchia and daughter Hacith - Sam closed his letter with the thought "WE ALL WISH YOU THE BEST ALWAYS AND FURTHER LUCK IN YOUR INTERESTING TASK - and the needlework is embroided with the words BING AND I.C.C. BEST WISHES FROM ISRAEL - STERNBERG -

To Sam, Nizchia and Hacith we'd like to say a simple but very sincere "Thanks a lot"

IRELAND'S BING CROSBY *** ROY WARREN

It's a small world you know - there we were, talking in a coffee house in Belfast and Johnny Jones suggests we use the following cutting in the next BING magazine - we filed it, and here it is;

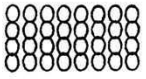
IRELAND'S BING CROSBY LOOKS BACK TO THE 30's

The 1930's may seem far away to many young people but many others will remember with pleasure the name of ROY WARREN, who was known at that time as Ireland's Bing Crosby - Memories of those days far away will be brought back next Tuesday when Roy Warren appears in the first of a new sound radio series. In the programme which is called OTHER PEOPLE he will tell listeners of his life in music and a number of his well known records will be played from that time. After studying the piano in London and being trained as a baritone, Roy Warren decided to use his musical talents as a crooner, and although he continued to work in a bank he became very successful and made a number of hit records.

Very interesting, we're sure you'll agree, but the funniest things happen when Johnny gets going and you can imagine how delighted we were when a tape arrived from Johnny together with a further clipping on Roy Warren together with the startling news that Johnny's wife Margaret actually knows Ray's associate of those early days George Larnour and is at the time of issueing this magazine contacting Mr Larnour with a view to finding out more of Ray Warren for interested members - How about that folks - and we'll be back in the next issue with more..... Meanwhile, here's the other cutting

HE STILL CROONS

My reference last week to RAY WARREN, the Ulster crooner of the 30's may prompt some readers to ask what he's doing now. Well, Ray, in his mid-fifties is running his own restaurant in Belturbet, Co Cavan. Ray's associate of the early days was Mr George Larnour , now a senior member of the staff of Shell-Mex and BP in Belfast. Mr Larnour told me, 'Ray had a voice not unlike Engelburt Humperdinck. We got an offer on one occasion from the USA but we did not accept. Today Ray's still a pop star at heart and often sits down at the piano to entertain his customers.



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Arriva Derci' till October 25th, yes, we'll be back on schedule for the next issue of BING - packed with your favourite articles and photos we will again present an excess of 60 pages issue for your complete Crosby enjoyment + sounds like a Lyons maid does'nt it - but you'll get the idea when you receive the next issue - till then, on behalf of all of this issues contributers and the clubs officers and correspondents throughout the world, thanks for your support, and until next trip - all best regards to you and yours.....Frank.....

He calls himself — "The OLD GROANER

But to us he's always BING